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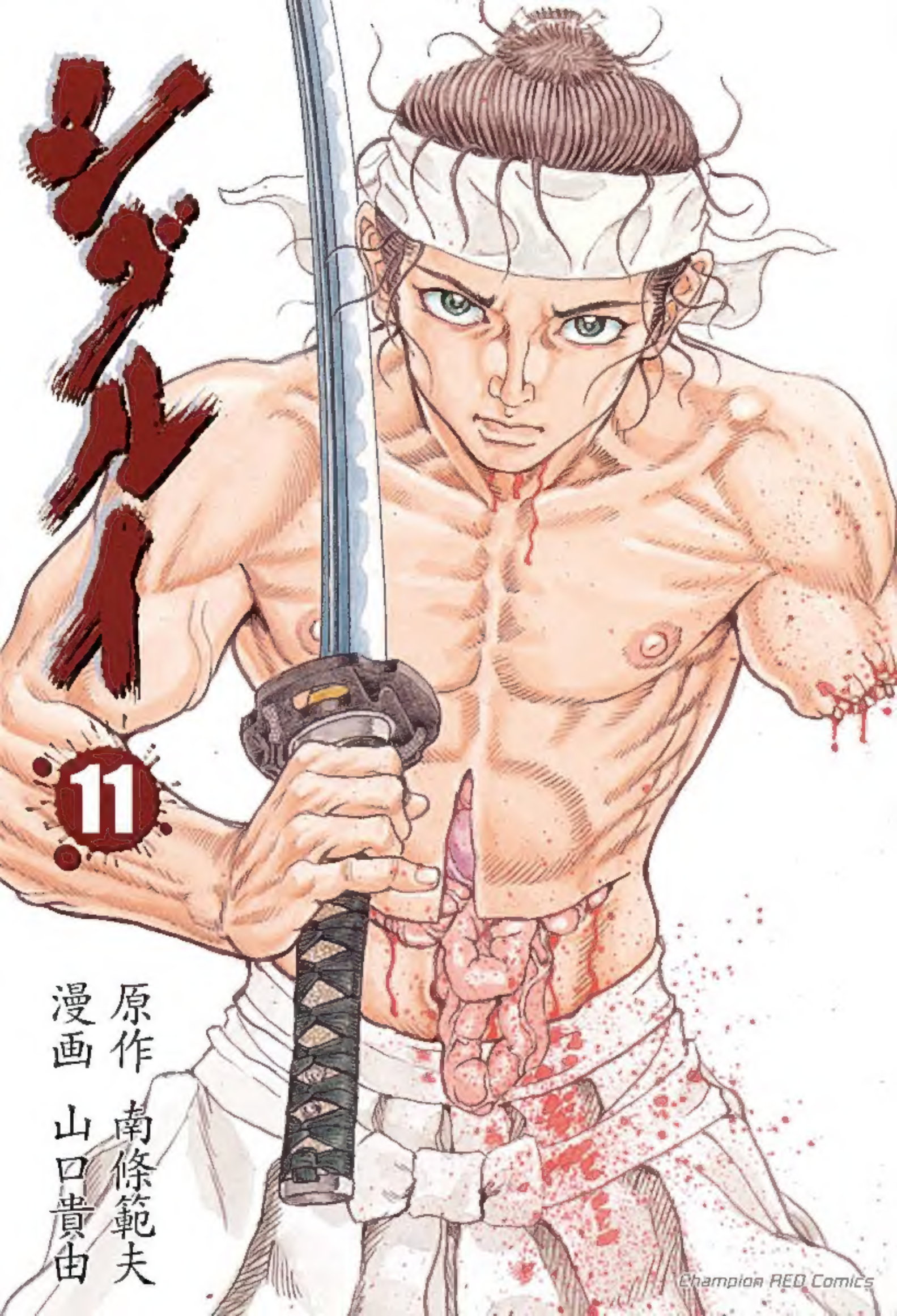
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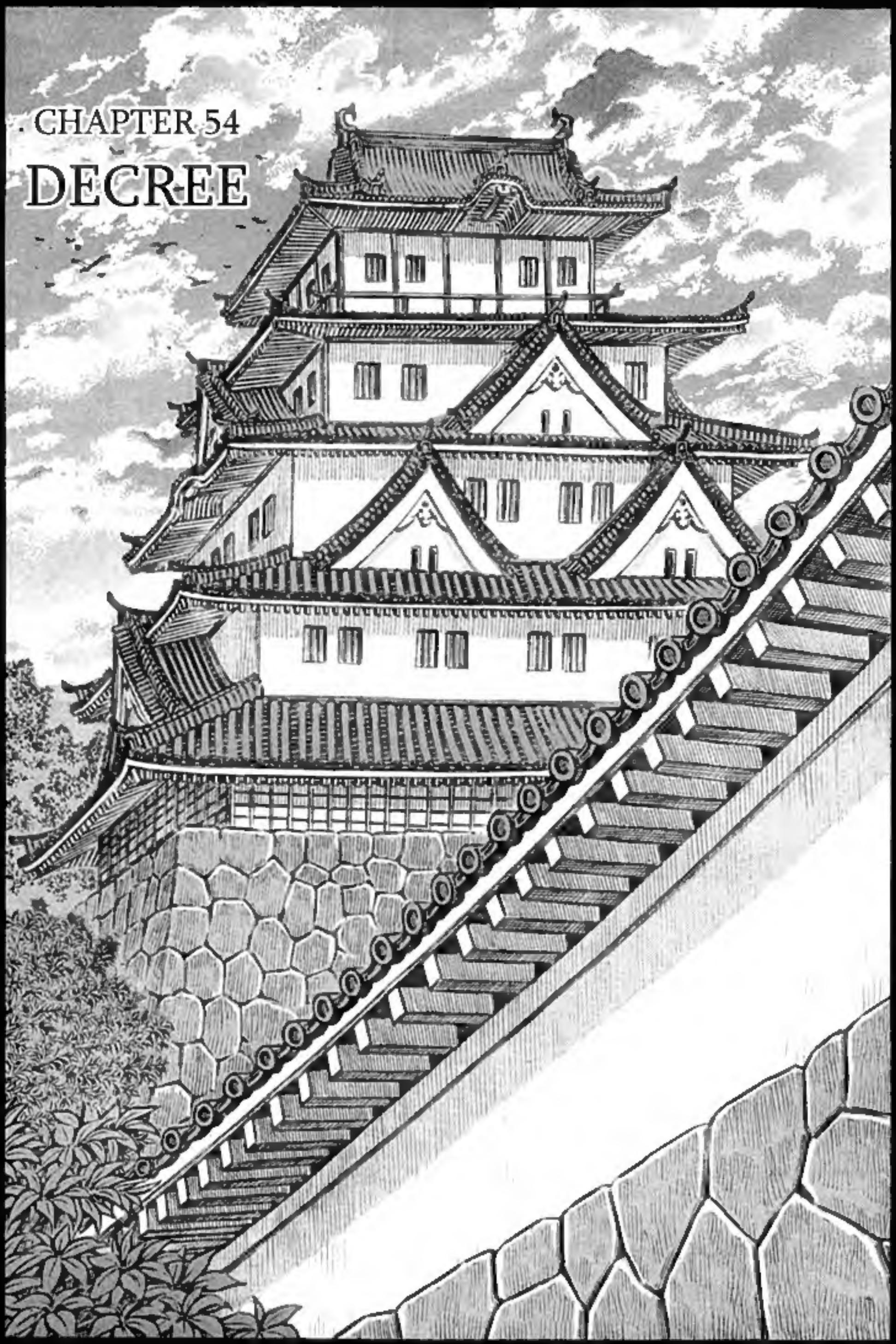
CHAPTER 54

DECREE



TONO
...

THE MOMENT TADANAGA'S HAND GRASPED HIS WAKIZASHI,

HIS TSUKIKAROU, TORII TOSA-NOKAMI, STEPPED FORWARD.

WAS SOMEONE THAT NOT EVEN TADANAGA,

COULD CASUALLY PUNISH.

THIS MAN OF THE TOUDOUZA,

GRANTED EXTRATER-RITORIAL RIGHTS BY SHOGUN IEYASU HIMSELF,

SHIZUHATA WAS ASSAULTED BY THE LORD,

IN THE MIDDLE OF DETAILING THE DUEL THAT HAD TAKEN PLACE IN KAKEGAWA.

ACCORDING TO THE SECRET RECORDS OF THE LORDS OF SURUGA,

KAKEGAWA.

ON THIS DAY, IN THE ESTATE OF HARAMIISHI,

THE MEN OF THE CLAN SAT BEFORE THE ARMOR OF THEIR ANCESTORS

YUKICHYO'S
BEHEADING
STRIKE

LEAVING JUST A STRIP OF FLESH CONNECTING THE HEAD TO THE SHOULDERS

HAD BEEN MASTER-FULLY EXECUTED,

And so I offer my deepest apologies.

It is my mistake and mine alone.

Though my misjudgement of the blood duel is a stain on the honor of my clan.

I can think of no excuse for what came to pass.

Morooka Denzaemon, corpse examiner, and others, be repealed.

I humbly request that the demands for seppuku made to Sasahara Kuranosuke, recorder of the battle,

Haramiishi Bizennokami

FOR A KAROU TO TAKE HIS OWN LIFE OVER A DUEL BETWEEN TWO LOW RANKING WARRIORS,

WAS A COMPLETELY UNPRECEDENTED EVENT

THE DOCUMENT WHICH REACHED LORD ASAKURA NOBUMASA,

DETAILED HARAMIISHI'S DESIRE TO TAKE THE BURDEN FOR THE MATCH'S UNSATISFACTORY AFTERMATH ALONE.

THE STIPEND OF THE IWAMOTO CLAN, WHICH HAD ONCE BEEN THREE HUNDRED KOKU,

THIS AMOUNT BARELY BEING ENOUGH FOR TWO PEOPLE TO SURVIVE,

WAS REDUCED TO JUST TWO ALLOTMENTS OF THIRTY BAGS OF RICE,

AND THE ESTATE WAS CONFISCATED

虎狼痛指南岩本道場

WAS KNOWN AS **"SUTE-BUCHI"

*THE BARE MINIMUM OF RICE ALLOTED TO THE ELDERLY, THE ILL OR THE YOUNG OF A ONCE-NOBLE HOUSE.

MAY YOU LIVE LONG AND STAY HEALTHY.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MANY YEARS OF SERVICE.

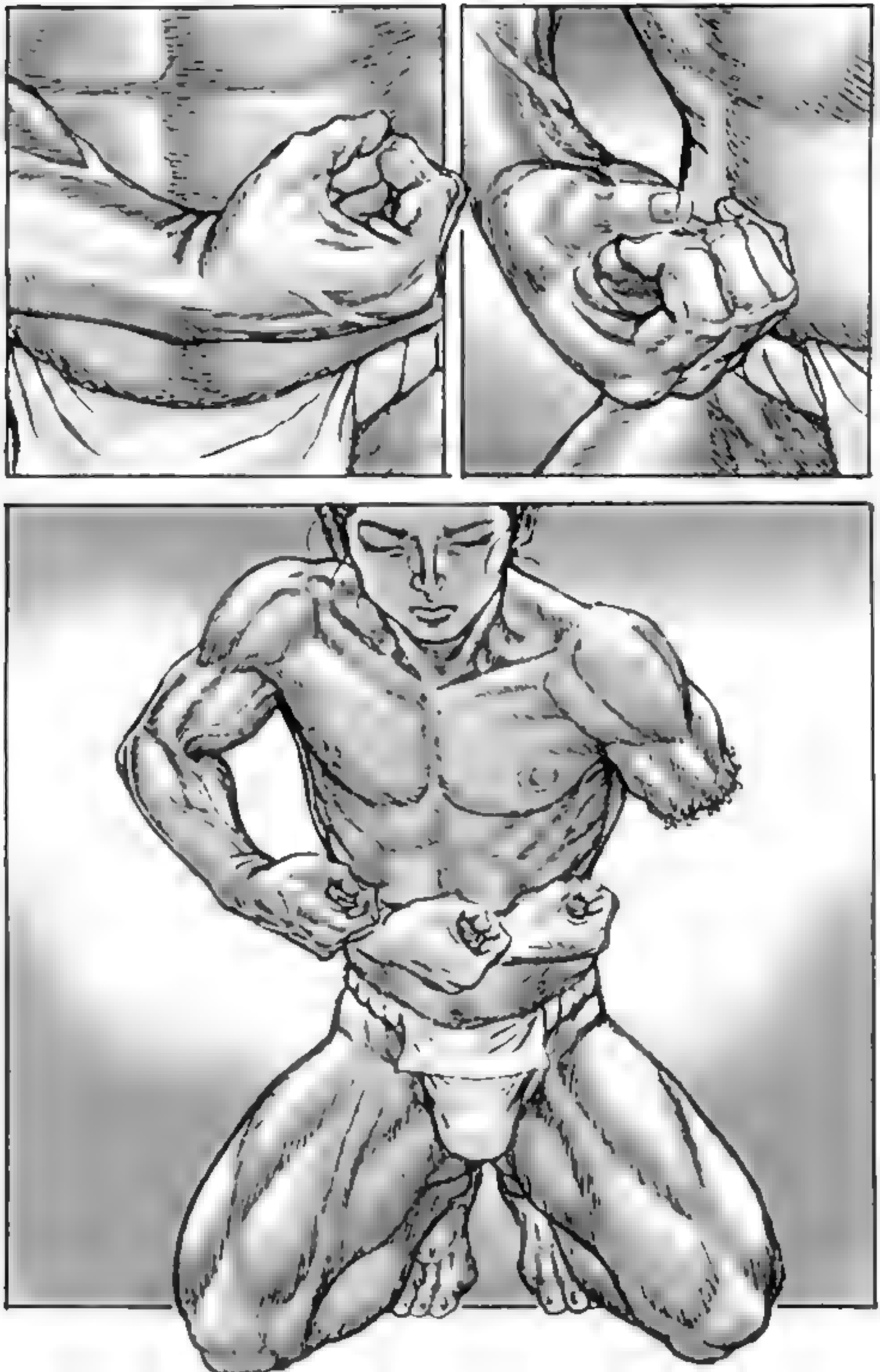
THERE WERE NO LAWS DECIDING THE EXACT AMOUNT TO BE GIVEN AS RETIREMENT PAY.

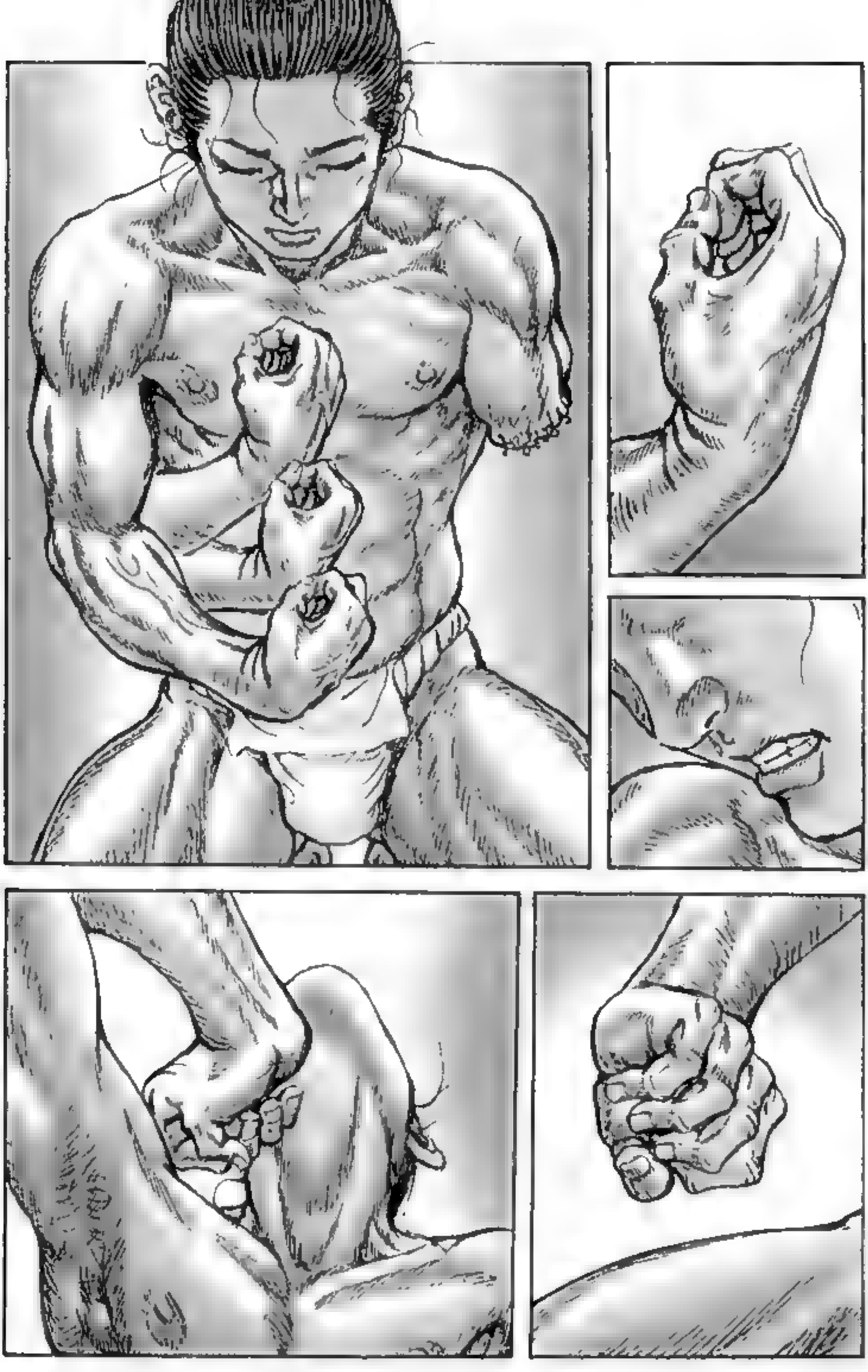
SHE ONLY BOWED HER HEAD,

AND REPEATED HER WORDS OF THANKS

SHED TEARS AND ATTEMPTED TO REFUSE,

THOUGH SANE AND THE OTHERS,

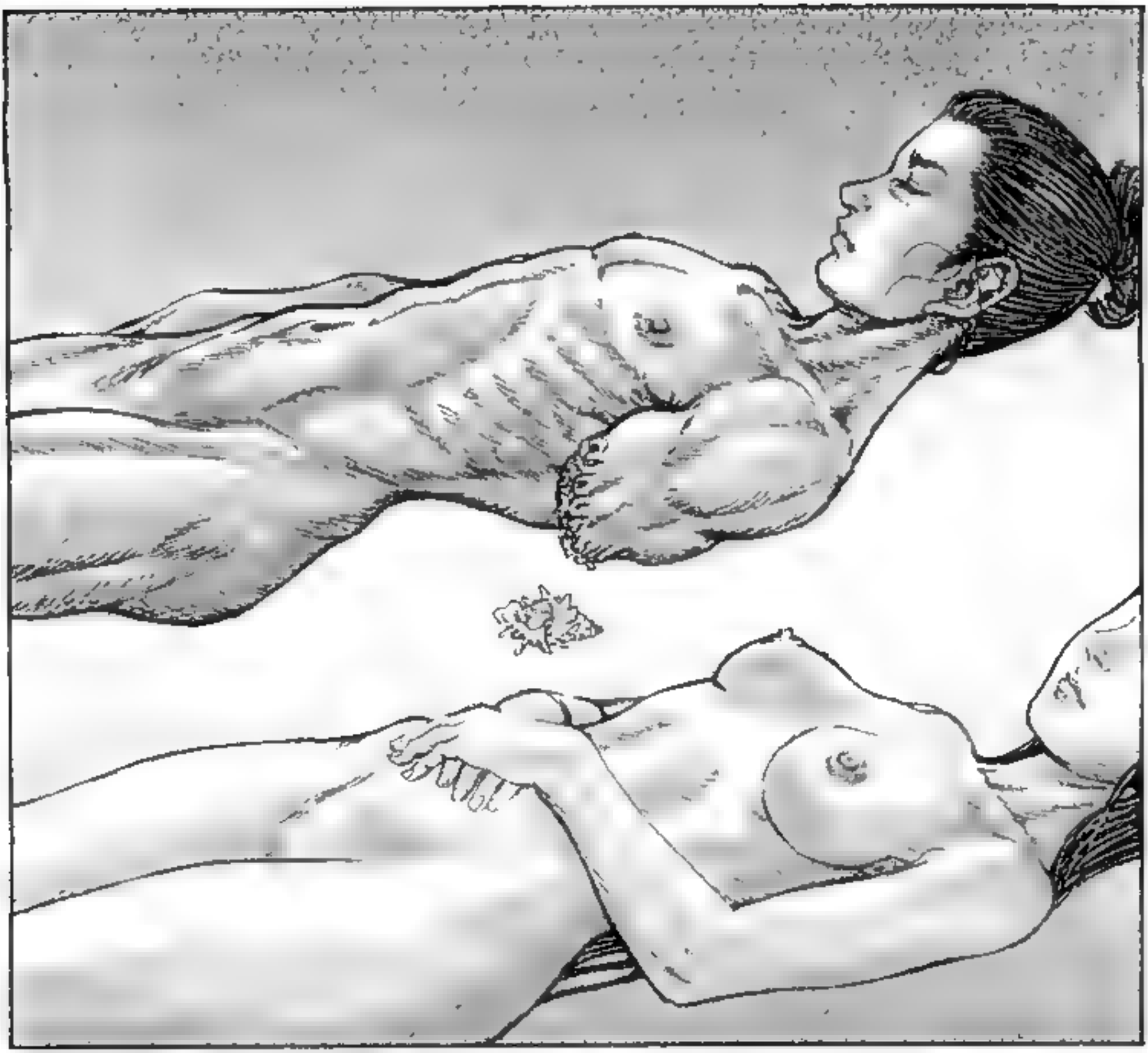


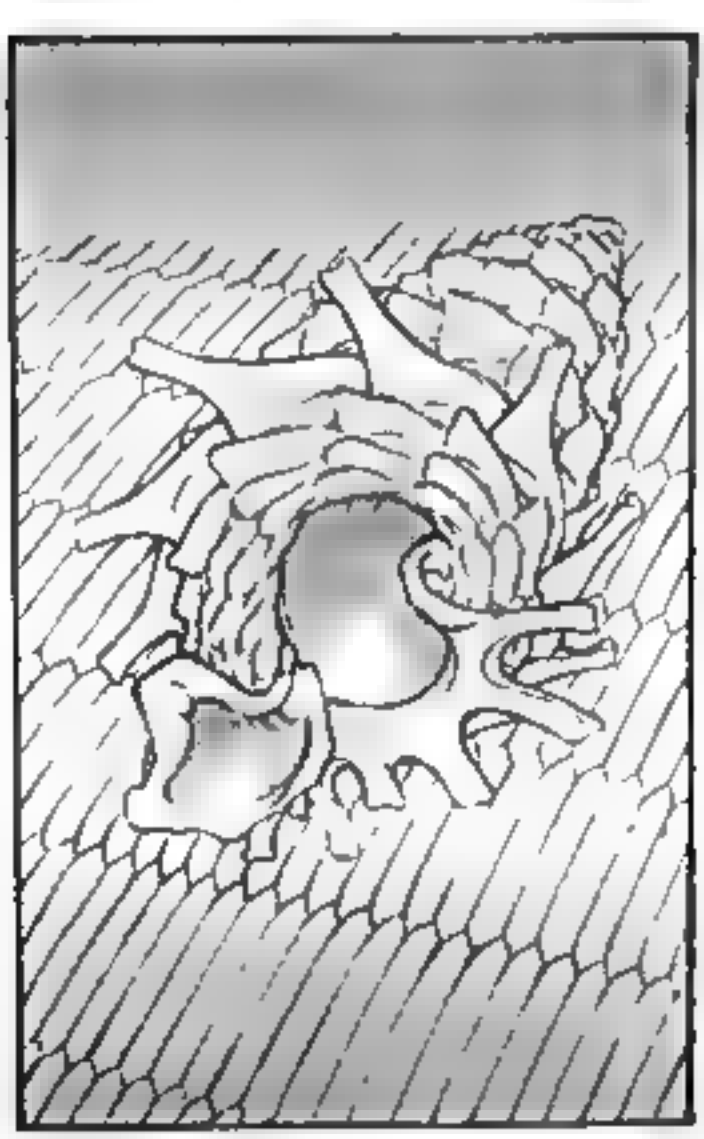


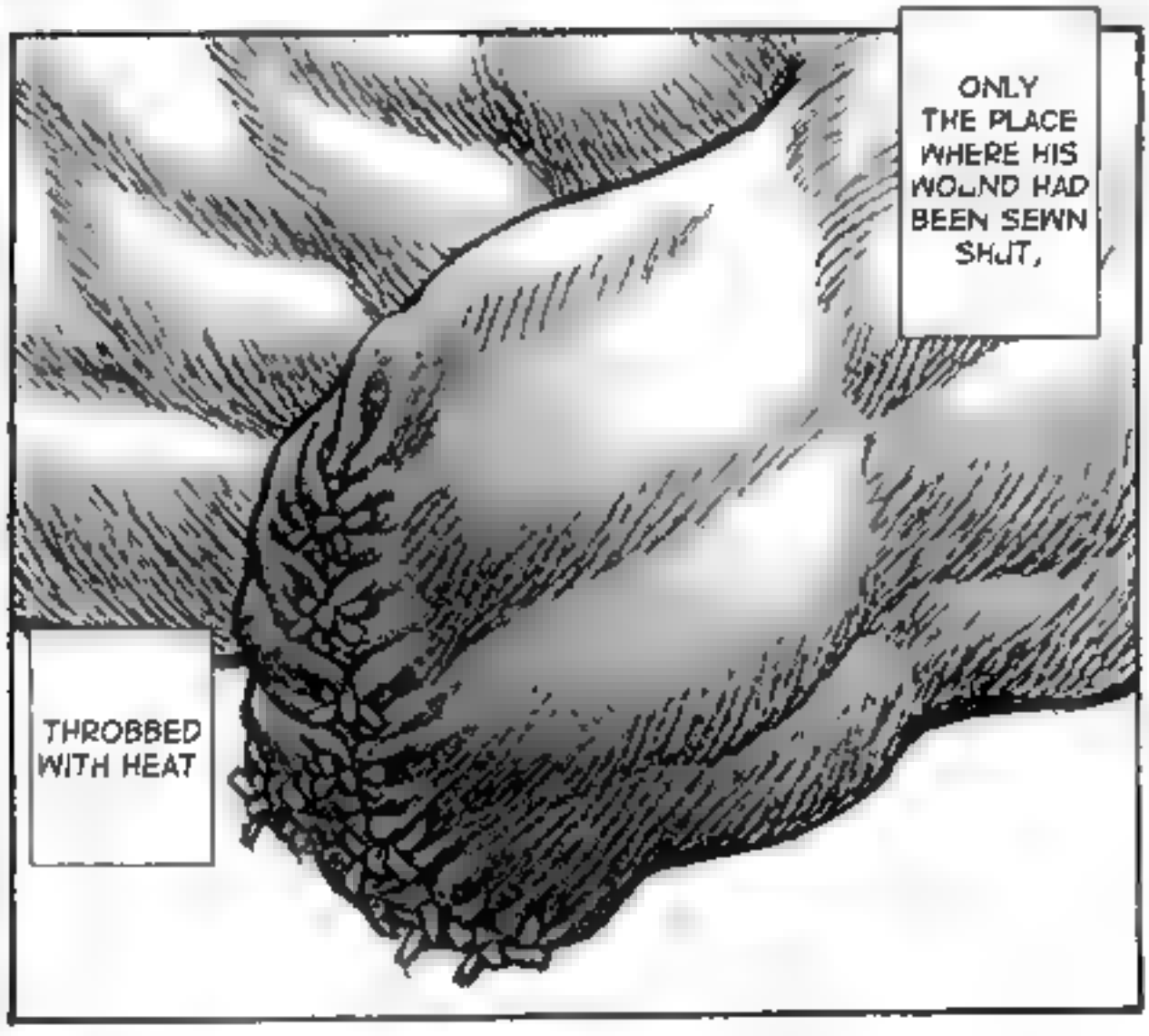
THE LAST NIGHT

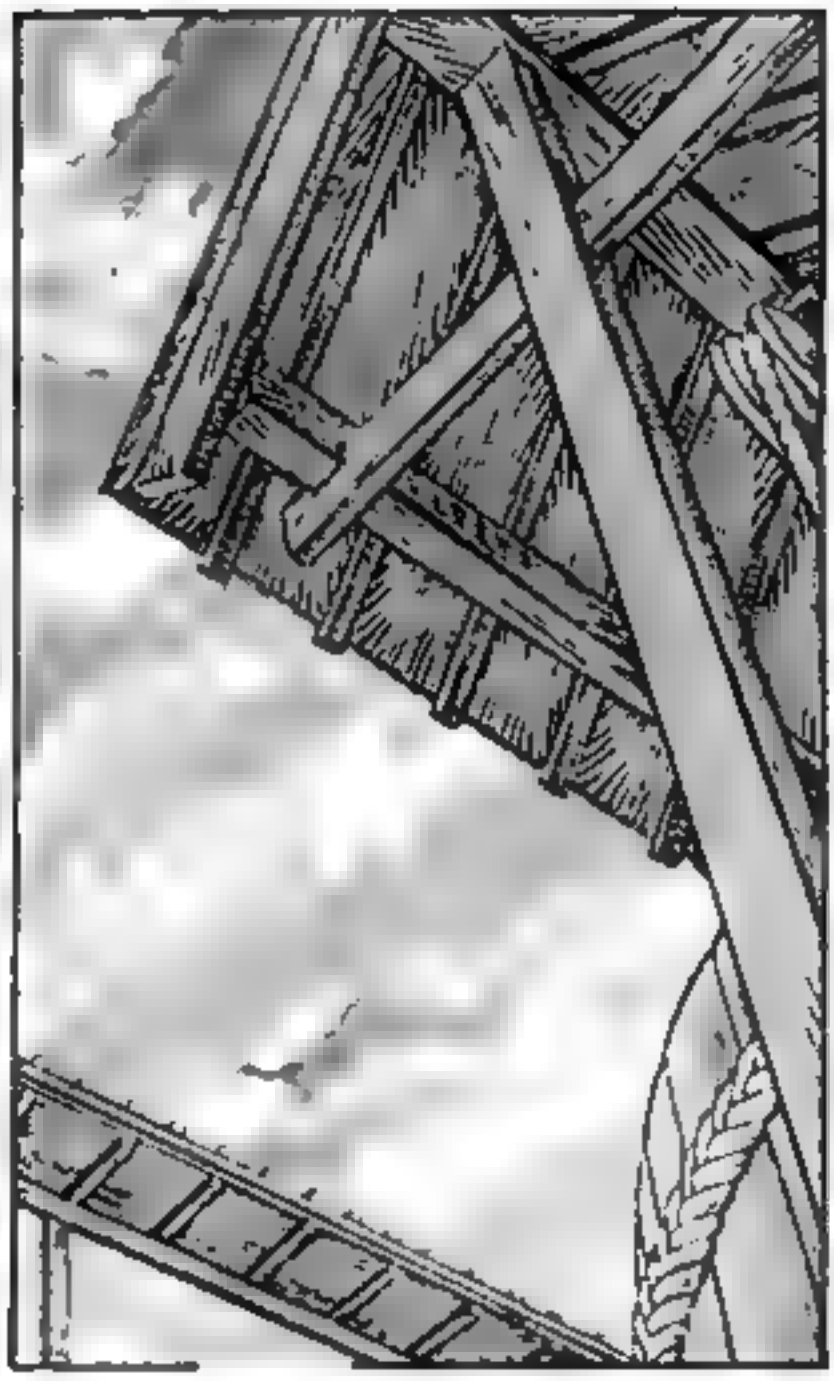
THOUGH GENNOSUKE AND MIE LAID IN THE SAME ROOM,

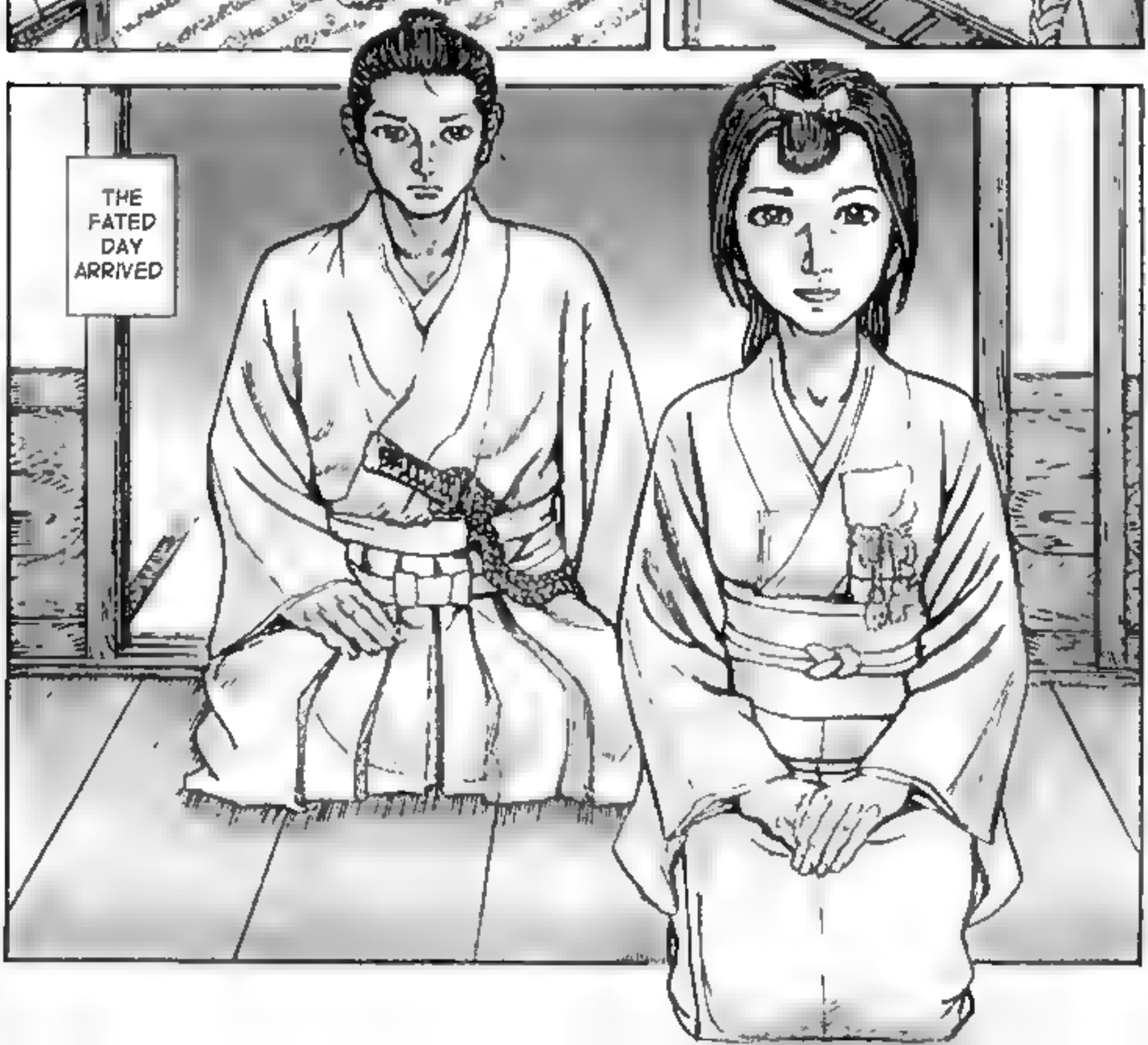
THEY D.D NOT TOUCH ONE ANOTHER WITH SO MUCH AS A SINGLE FINGER






ONLY THE PLACE WHERE HIS WOUND HAD BEEN SEWN SHUT,
THROBBED WITH HEAT




THE
FATED
DAY
ARRIVED

KANEI 5TH YEAR.

EARLY MORNING OF NOVEMBER 3RD.

*1628

MABUCHI GYOUBU-NOSUKE.

I AM AN ENVOY OF THE DOMAIN OF SURUGA,

THE FIEF OF SURUGA,

WAS ONE WHICH ENCOM-PASSED KAKEGAWA

MAY I INQUIRE AS TO WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?

FINISH THE MATTER WITH IRAKO SEIGEN-TONO.

NEVER IN THE ANNALS OF HISTORY HAS THERE EVER BEEN A VENGEANCE MATCH IN WHICH BOTH PARTIES SURVIVED.

THIS WILL REMAIN AND FESTER IN BOTH OF YOUR HEARTS.

WE RAISE NO ISSUE WITH THIS OUTCOME.

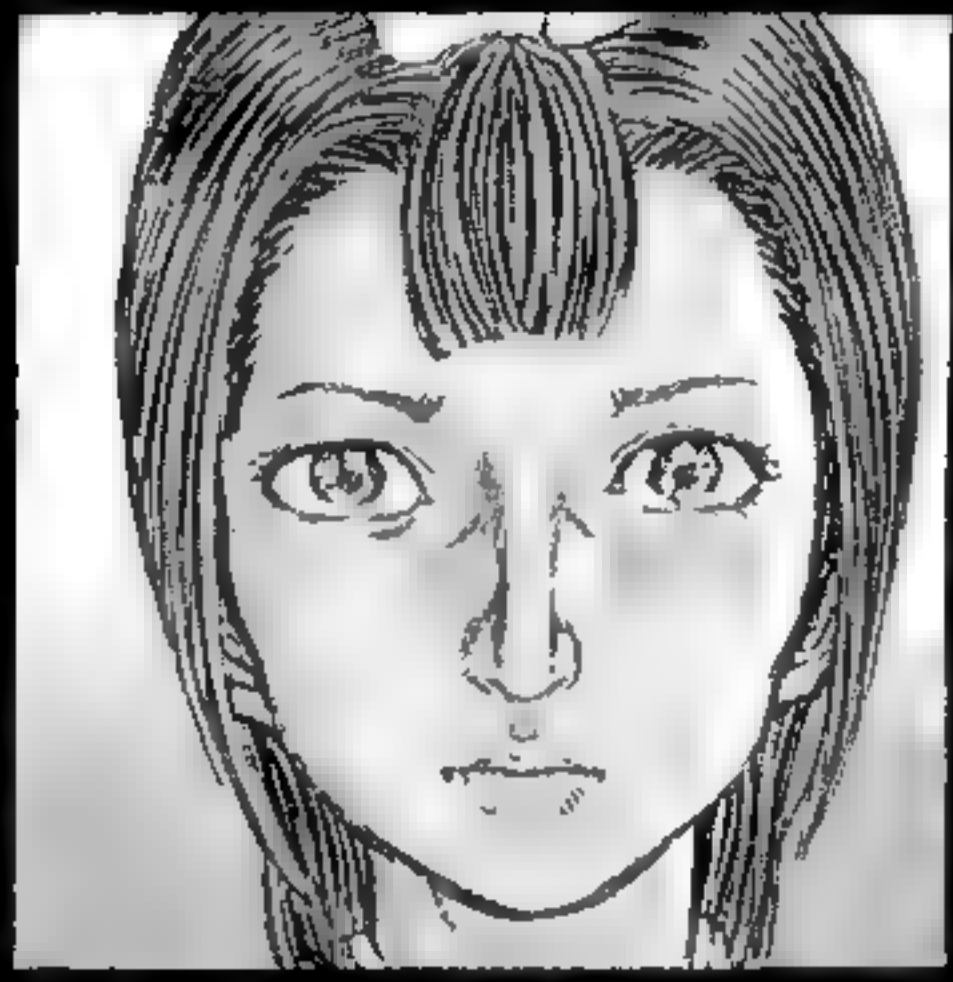
DO YOU MEAN TO TELL ME THAT NOUBI'S UNRIVALED KOGAN-RYUU,

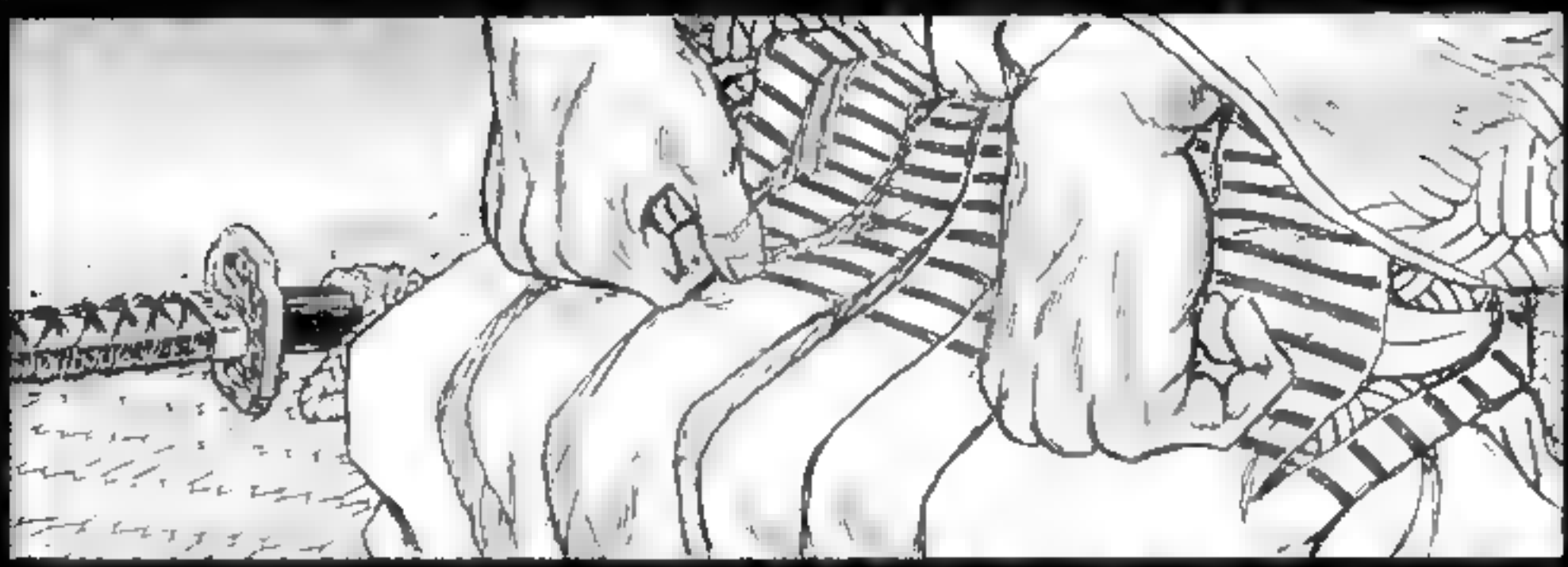
IS AFRAID?

HE IS A NATURAL-BORN GENIUS.

I CANNOT COMPARE.

THE OUTCOME WAS DECIDED





TO YE OF THE HOUSE OF IWAMOTO,
I COM-MAND,

THERE SHALL BE A REMATCH WITH IRAKO SEIGEN-TONO.

THIS IS A DIRECT DECREE.

THIS DECREE, AN ORDER FROM ONE'S LORD,
WAS SOMETHING WHICH NO SAMURAI COULD EVEN THINK OF DISOBEYING

THIS ORDER,

HOW-EVER,

THOUGH THE IWAMOTO CLAN SWORE FEALTY TO THE LORD OF KAKEGAWA

ASAKURA NOBU-MASA,

HAD BEEN ISSUED BY THOSE WHO STOOD AT THE PINNACLE OF WARRIOR SOCIETY,

THE HOUSE OF TOKU-GAWA.

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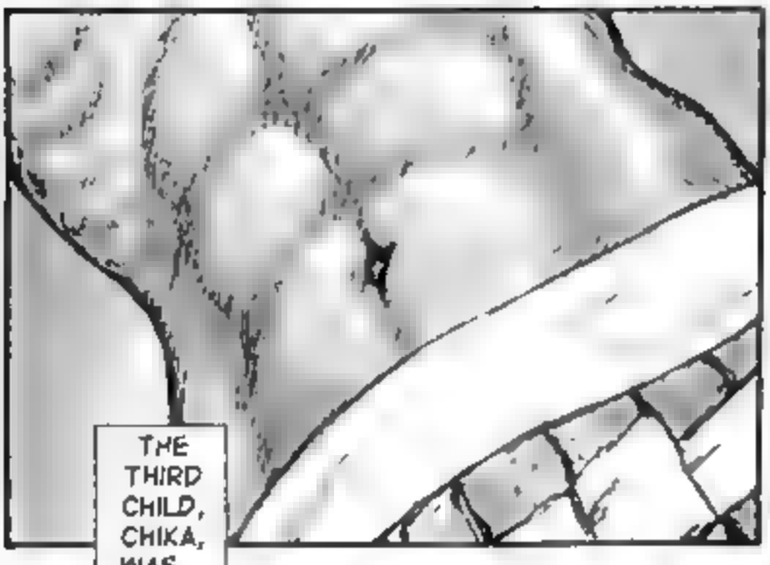
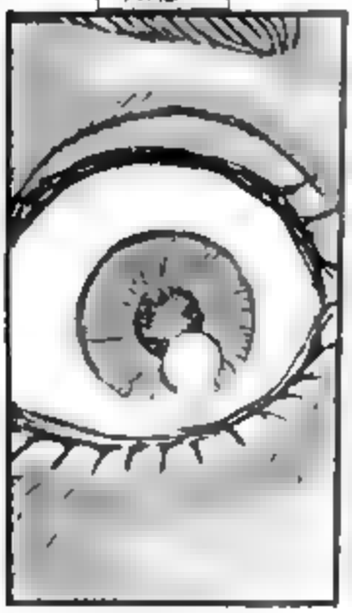
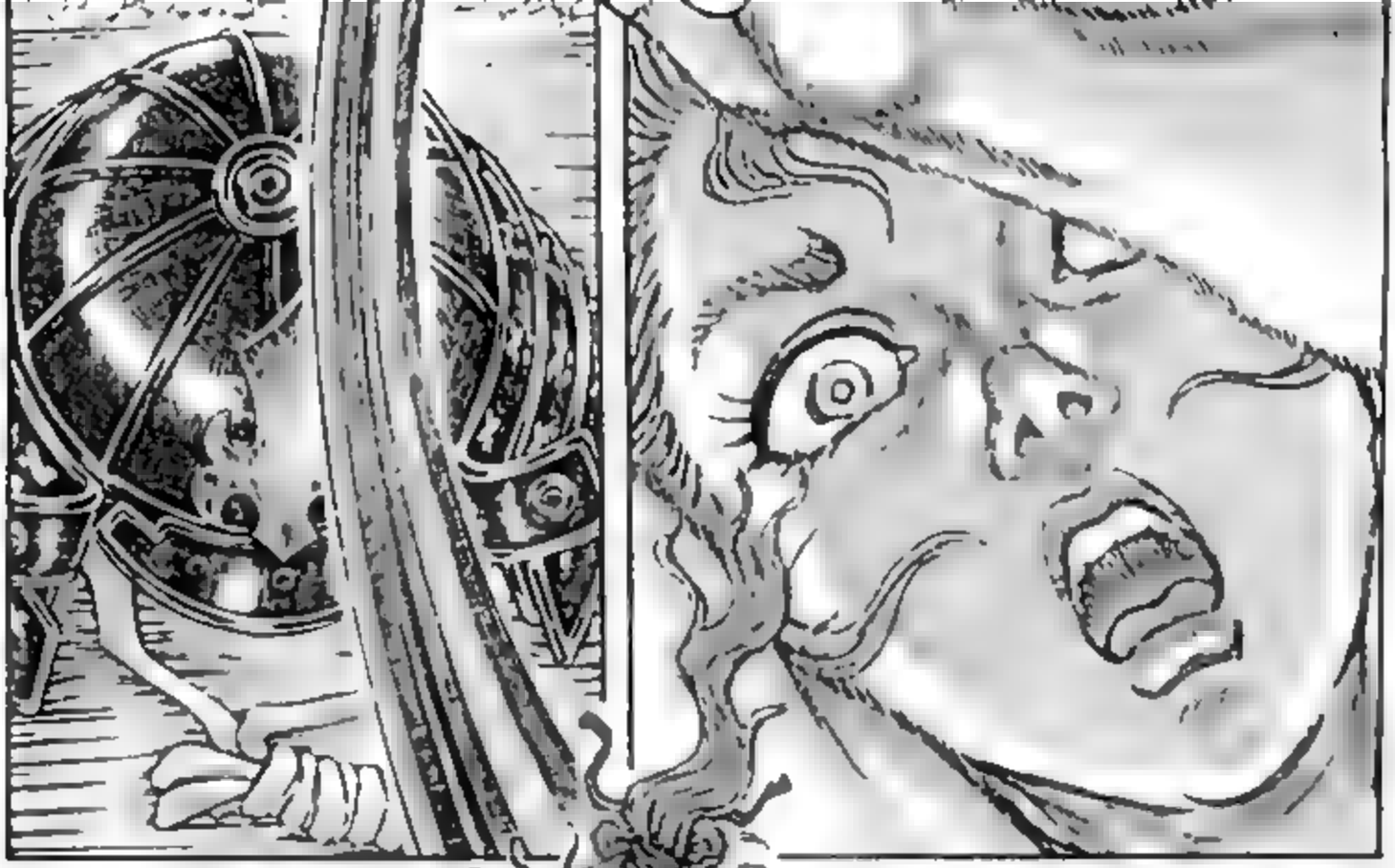
CHAPTER 55
HELMET

KAN'EI FIRST YEAR
THE FUNAKI BROTHERS OF NISSAKA WERE FOUND DEAD,
THE SKIN OF THEIR FACES GONE

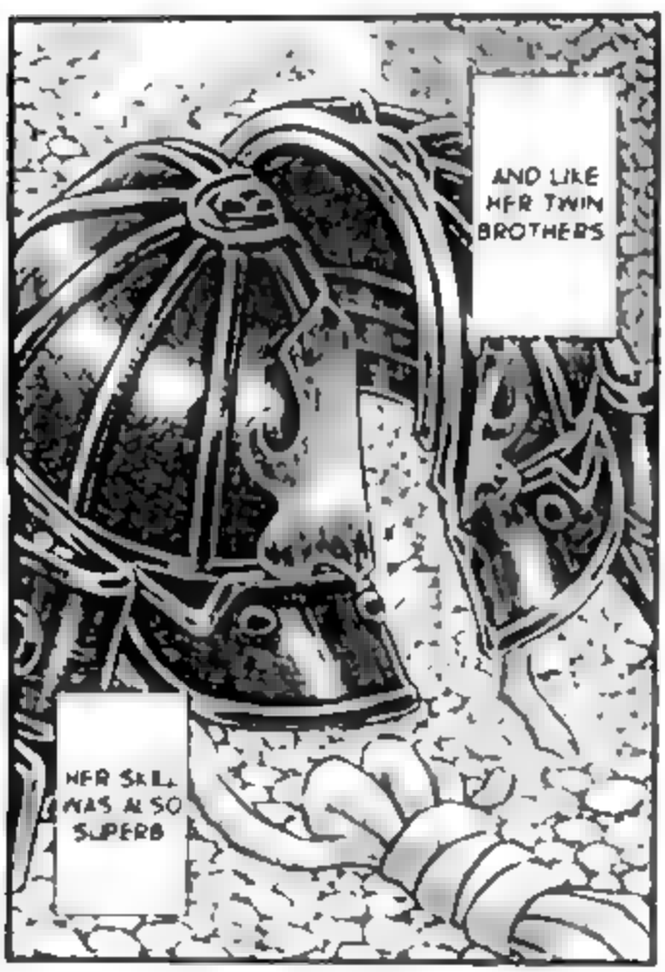
ONLY ONE SUCCESSOR WAS LEFT TO THE FUNAKI DOUJOU


THE THIRD CHILD, CHIKA, WAS





SHE POSSESSED THE MONSTROUS STRENGTH.


AND LIKE HER TWIN BROTHERS
HER SKILL WAS ALSO SUPERB

WHICH WAS THE GIFT OF THE FUNAKI LINE.

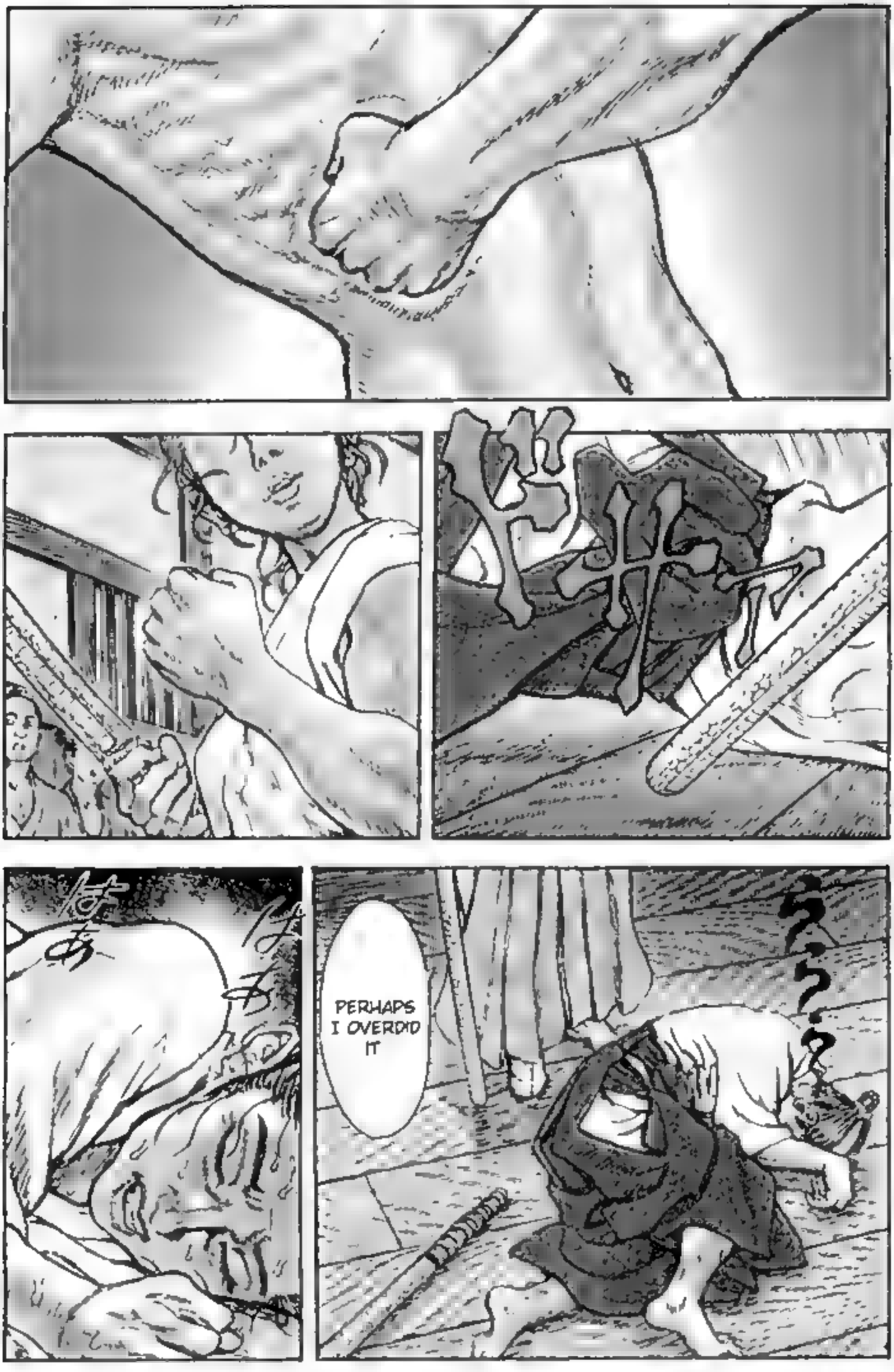
COME!

I YIELD!
I,

WHO'S NEXT?

YES!
YE
MATAHACHI!
KURAMI MATA-HACHI
A BEAU-TIFUL BOY WITH PALE SKIN

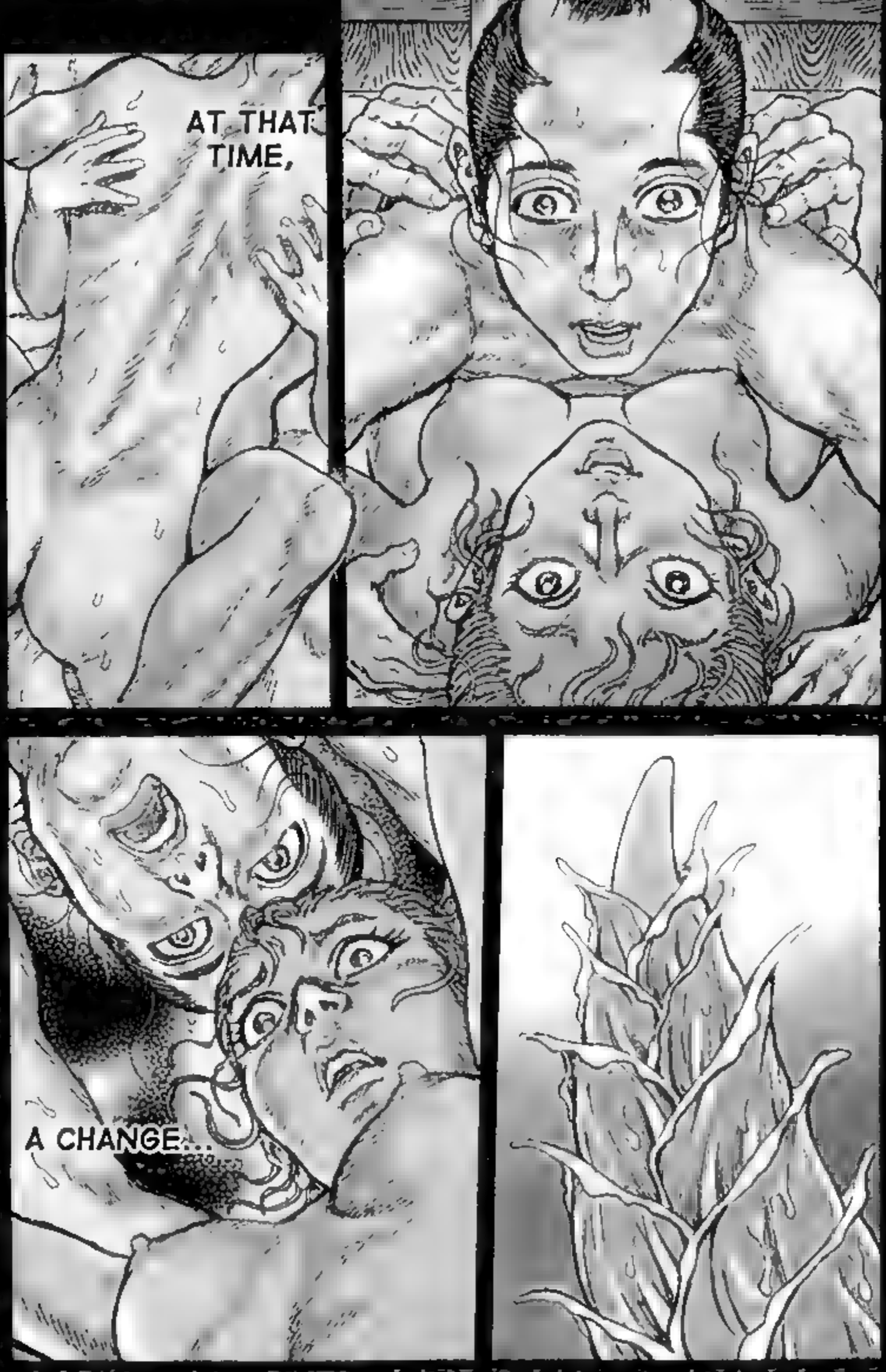
THERE!
YOUR BODY IS WIDE OPEN!
THAT TICKLED.


PERHAPS I OVERDID IT

ON THAT DAY.
MATAHACHI ENDED UP STAYING OVERNIGHT AT THE FUNAKI DOUJOU
YOU SHOULD REST A WHILE.
UGH. HOW PATHETIC.
IT'S OBVIOUS THAT CHIKA-SAMA WILL DESPISE ME NOW.
BEAUTIFUL CHIKA-SAMA....

MATA-
HACHI
...
Chika-
sama_

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO EVER HIT ME HARD,
MATA-HACHI.
SHE HAD LEARNED FROM THE TWIN BROTHERS,
THOUGH SHE WAS STILL A VIRGIN,
MORE THAN ENOUGH ABOUT THE WAYS OF THE FLESH


AT THAT TIME,
A CHANGE...

SOMETHING IN CHIKA'S BODY CHANGED,
THAT SHE COULD NEVER EVEN HAVE IMAGINED

Chica- sorna, you are a mar-
Ch...
IM,
IMPU- DENT WRETCH!

AT THE VITAL MOMENT,
A PART OF THE GIRL'S BODY TURNED INTO THAT OF A MAN!
CHIKA'S BODY RETURNED TO ITS NORMAL STATE
THERE WAS ONE WHO WATCHED THIS EVENT.
FROM BENEATH THE FLOOR-BOARDS

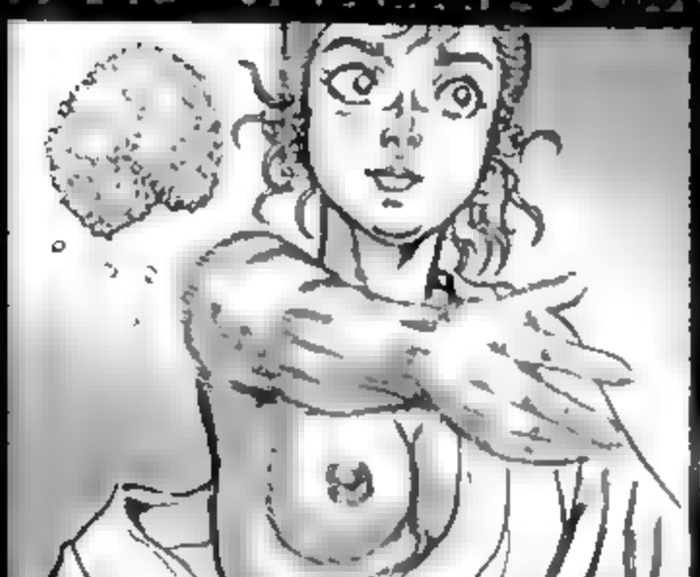
KUTSUKI.
GANNOSUKE.

THIS HORRIFYING MAN,
WAS ORIGINALLY THE SON OF A ROUNIN WHO HAD COLLAPSED IN THE STREET
ICHIDENSAI HAD TAKEN HIM IN AND RAISED HIM.
Pitiful
-

THAT FOOL, GANNO-SUKE.
HIS HEAD IS SO BIG, HE CAN'T EVEN RAISE HIS SWORD ABOVE IT!
DUE TO HIS STRANGE CENTER OF BALANCE,
HE OFTEN TRIPPED EASILY

SUCH WAS GANNO-SUKE'S LOT

WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

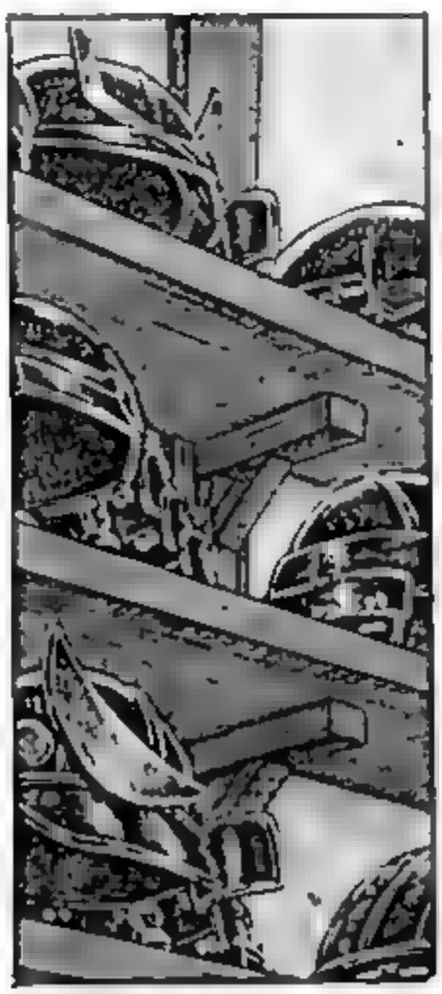


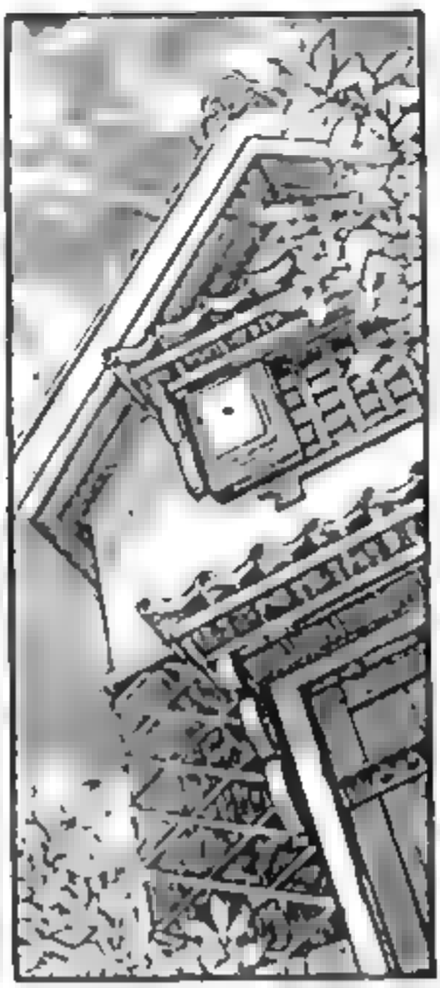
INSIDE THIS MAN'S HEAD, THESE ACTIONS WERE INTERPRETED AS .
THOUGH CHIKA HAD LET DOWN HER GUARD,
BECAUSE SHE THOUGHT OF THE TOAD,
AS A BEING WORTH LESS THAN EVEN AN ANIMAL,

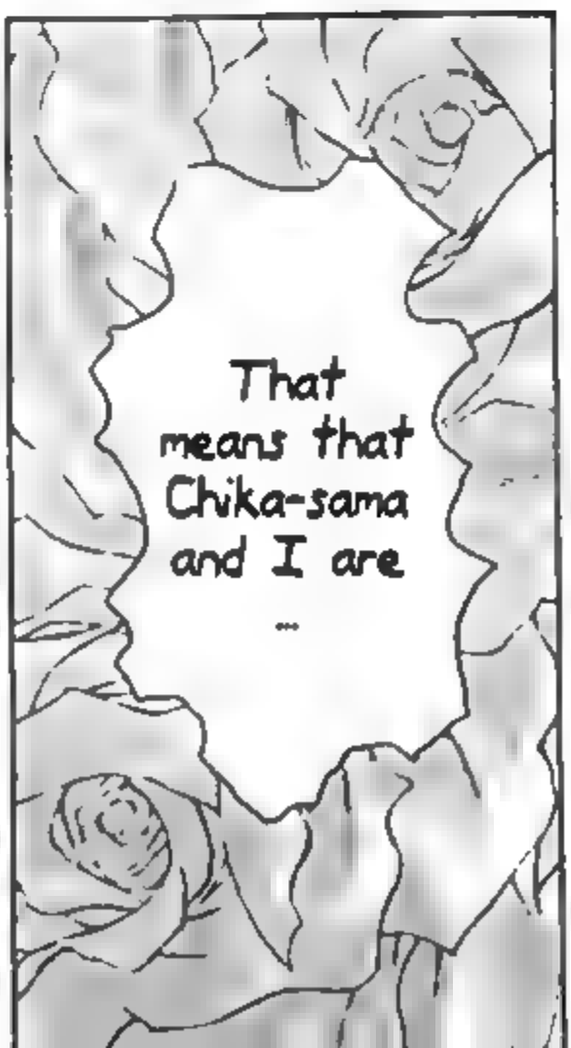
ON THIS NIGHT,

THE TOAD DISCOVERED THE MAIDEN'S SECRET.

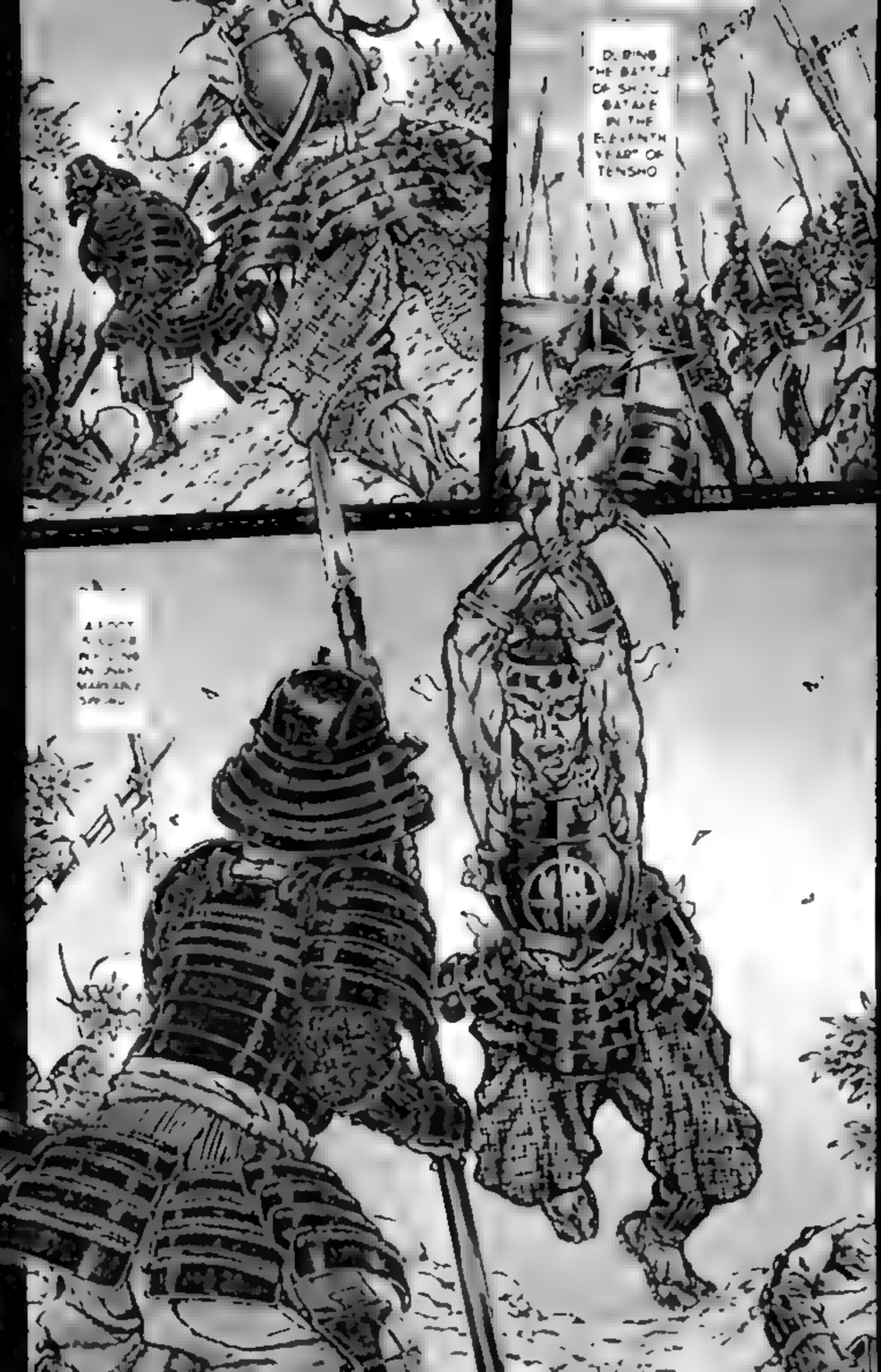
My body is different from that of other people
But Chika-sama's body, too...





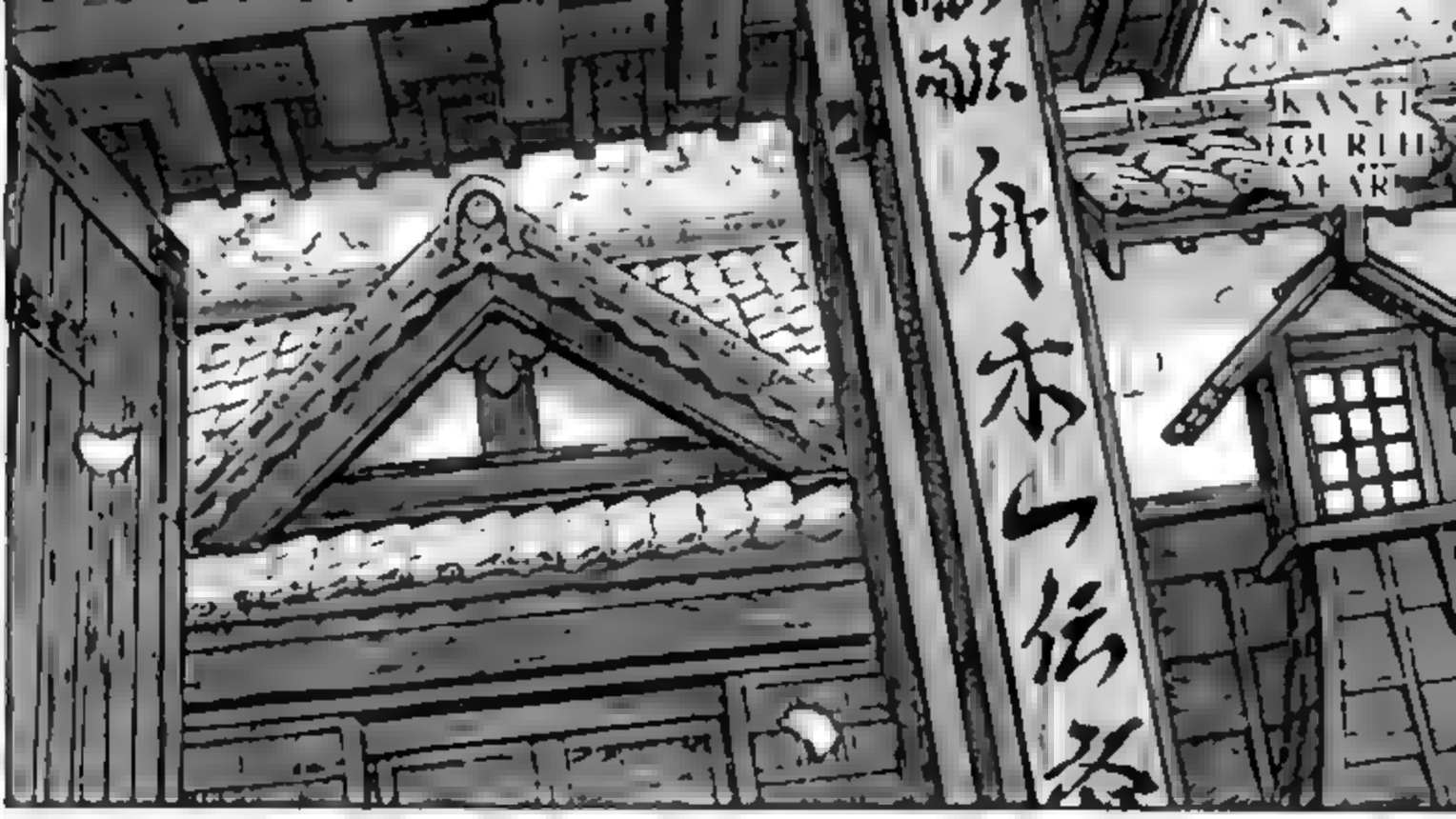

That means that Chika-sama and I are ...

CHAPTER 56
BATTLE


DURING THE BATTLE OF SHIZU GATAKE IN THE ELEVENTH YEAR OF TENSHO

WAS TRANS-
FORMED
INTO AN
ART

WHEN BOTH OF THEM WERE KILLED
THOUGH THE ONLY MEN WHO LEARNED THIS INCREDIBLE TECHNIQUE,
WERE ICHI DENSAI'S OWN SONS.
THE ONE TO MASTER THIS ART,
WOULD BECOME CHIKA'S HUSBAND
THAT MAN WOULD INHERIT ALL THAT FUNAKI ICHIDENSAI POSSESSED
THE RUMORS SAID



Heeh
What did you just say?
Which takes place on the fifth of May.
Please allow Gamazuka to participate in the test of Kabuterowen.

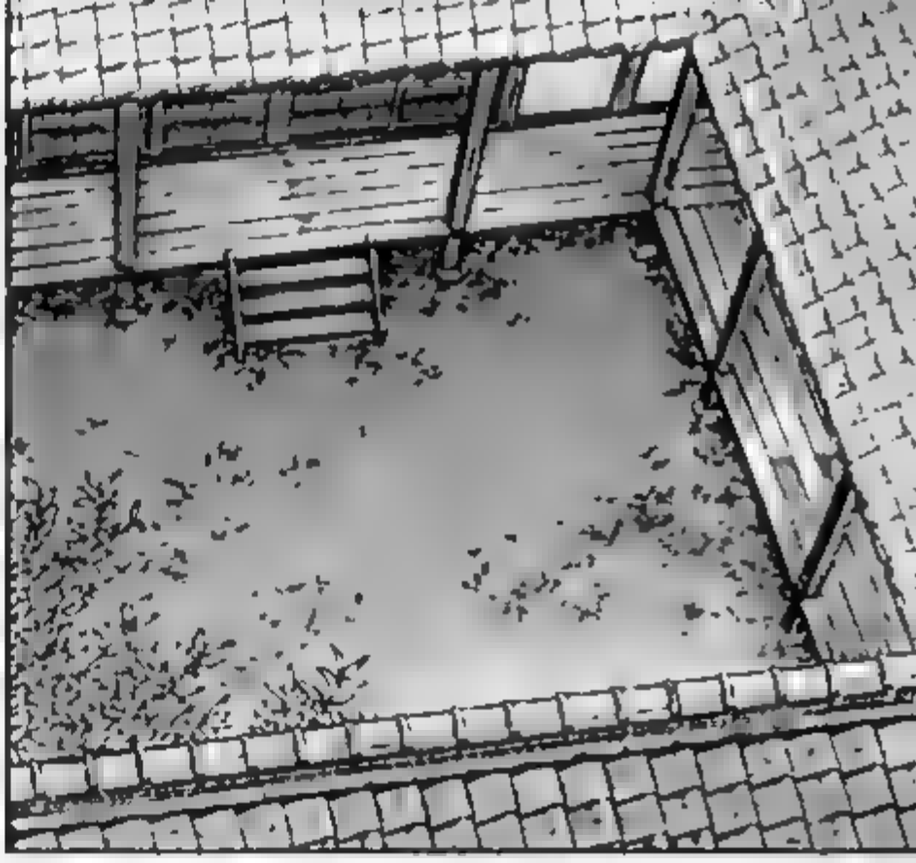
ぎゃはははは
Mad feelings for Chika-sama Disgusting
To think that a being so foul
Kurakawa Kizaemon
He cannot even wield a sword properly, yet he thinks to enter
Pathetic thing
Kuwaki Juzou
...
Saida Sounosuke

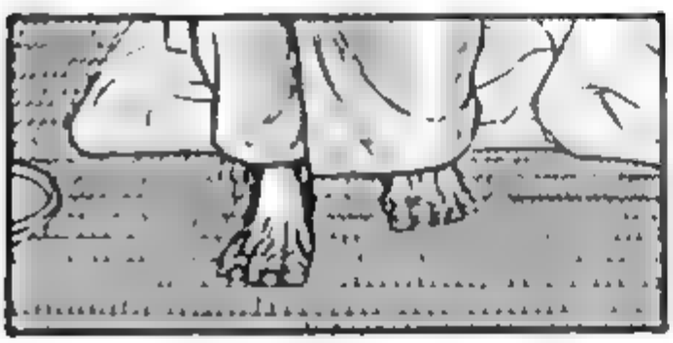
Master,
Please enter Gannosuke into the trial of kabuto-wari_

Very well.

THOUGH EVEN THE MOST NAME-LESS ROUNIN WAS NOT BARRED FROM ATTEMPTING KABUTO-WARI,
THERE WAS ONE RULE, THAT THE MAN WHO STEPPED FORWARD BE OF EXCEP-TIONAL SKIL_

FATHER...





FATHER...

THE BURDEN ON HER BACK WAS

ICHI-DENSAI'S FAVORITE HORSE

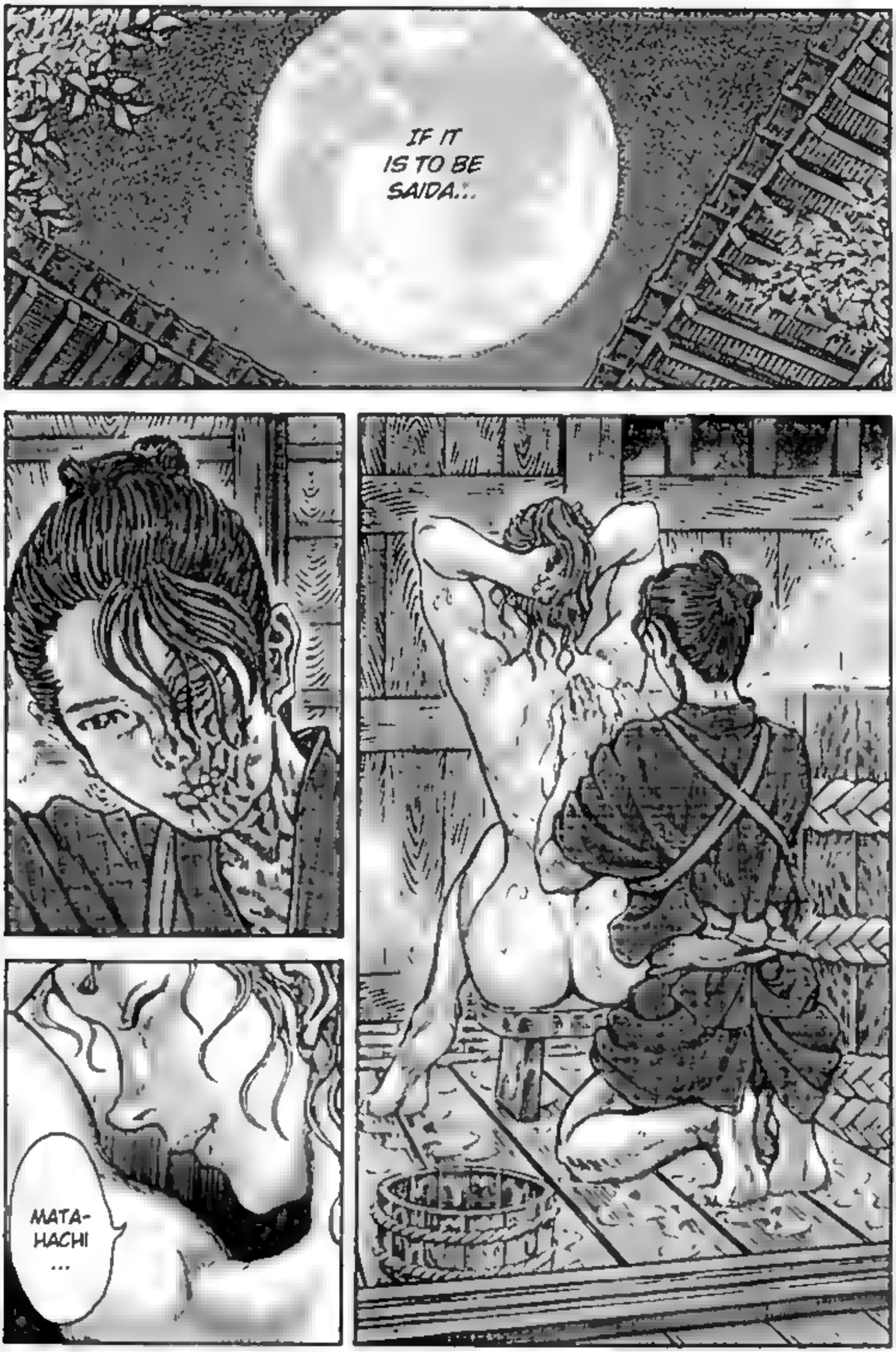
AGAINST THE FACT THAT A WANISHE REGARDED AS A LESSER CREATURE.

HAD BEEN ALLOWED TO ENTER THE TRIAL WHICH WOULD DECIDE HER HUSBAND

THIS WAS HER SAD PROTEST.

Chika.
No matter how pathetic or pitiful,
Every human is fated to have one moment in their lives in which they can change their own destiny.
Funaki-ryuu is a clan which rose up through sheer martial prowess.

SAIDA...
THE ONE TO ACHIEVE IT WILL MOST LIKELY BE SAIDA.
BUT IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR GANNOSUKE TO SLICE THROUGH HIS HELMET
SAIDA SOUNOSUKE
IT WAS SAID THAT HE WAS THE MOST SKILLED AMONG THE STUDENTS OF KUNAI RYU...
AND AT THE LAST YEAR'S FEST OF KABUTO WARI
THIS STRAPPING YOUNG MAN HAD SUCCEEDED IN CLEAVING THROUGH NEARLY HALF OF HIS HELMET


IF IT
IS TO BE
SAIDA...
MATA-
HACHI
...

WHAT'S WRONG?
THAT WAS JUST A DREAM.
A DREAM ...
SURELY THERE'S NOTHING.
IS THERE SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT MY BODY?
SINCE THAT ONE TIME, THE SECRET AREAS OF CHIKA'S BODY HAD NOT ONCE BEEN TRANSFORMED TO THOSE OF A MAN.

KAN-EI
FOURTH
YEAR,
MAY 5TH

THOUGH THESE RESULTS WERE ONLY TO BE EXPECTED SINCE A HELMET WAS AN INSTRUMENT OF WAR DESIGNED TO PROTECT AGAINST SWORDS AND SPEARS,

A SMALL CUT

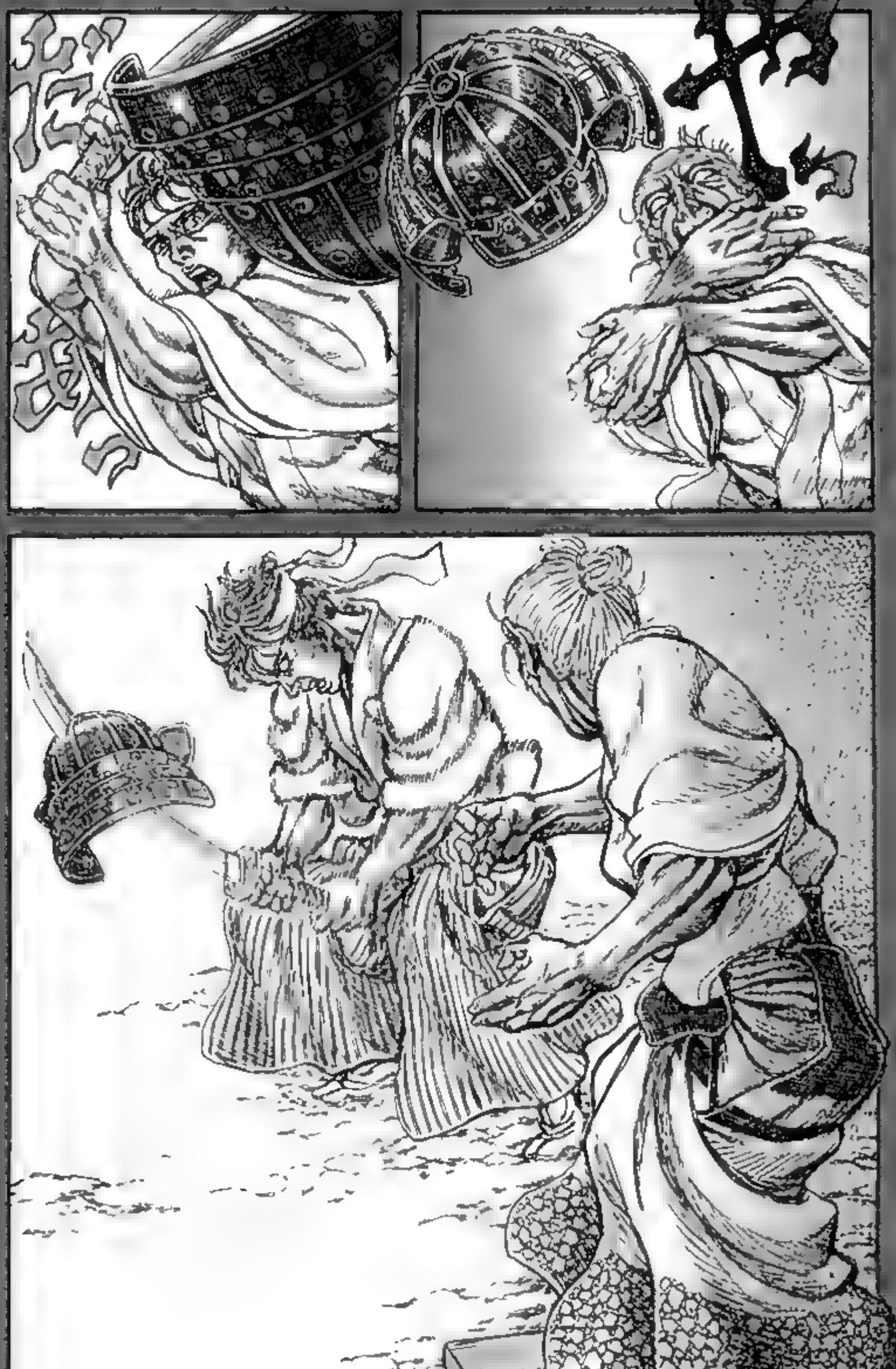
SECOND, KURAKAWA

FAILURE

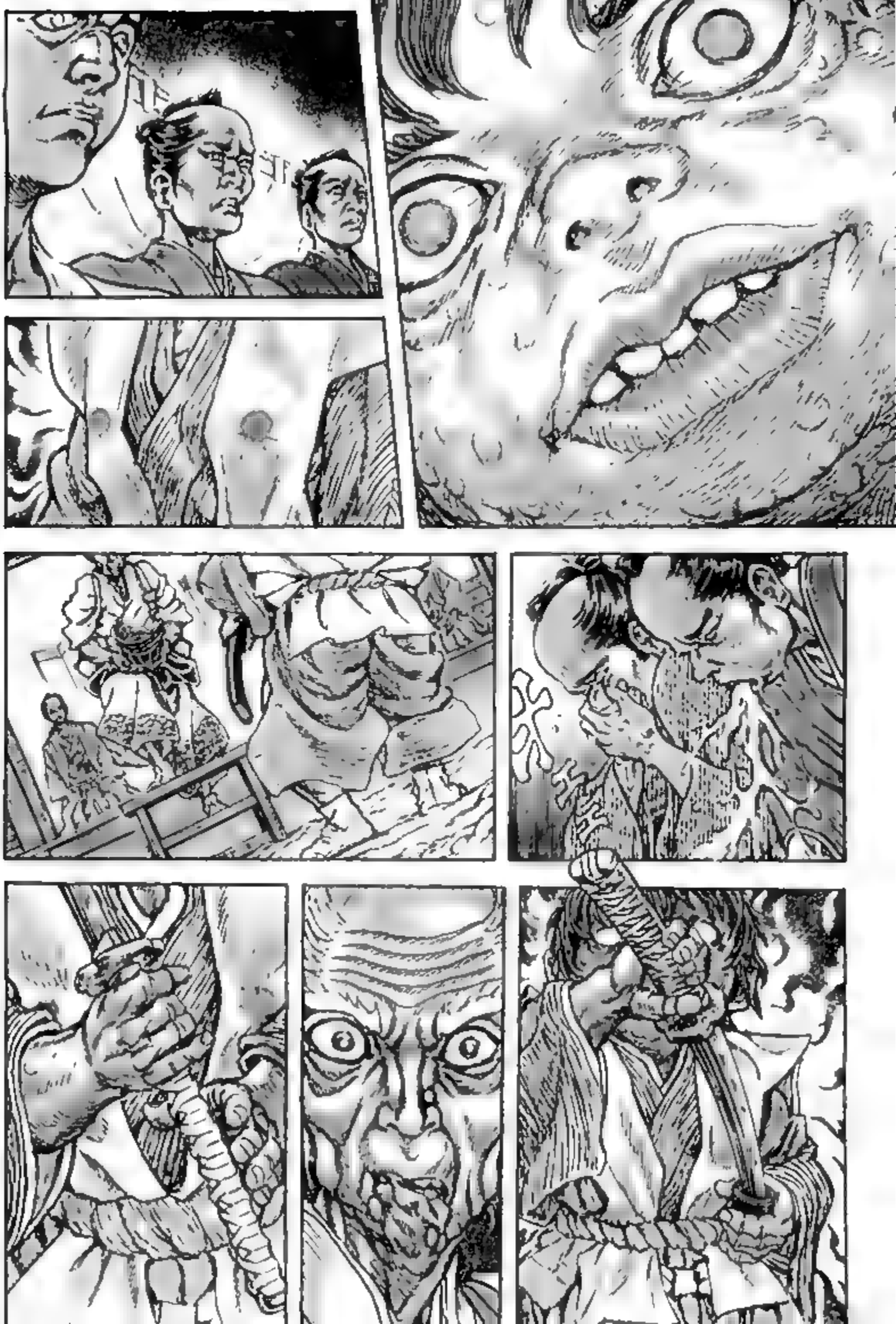
FIRST, KUWAK.

THE MAN WHO WOULD LEAD AN ENTIRE SCHOOL OF MARTIAL ARTS,

WOULD HAVE TO SUCCEED IN THIS AUDACIOUS TEST WITH EASE



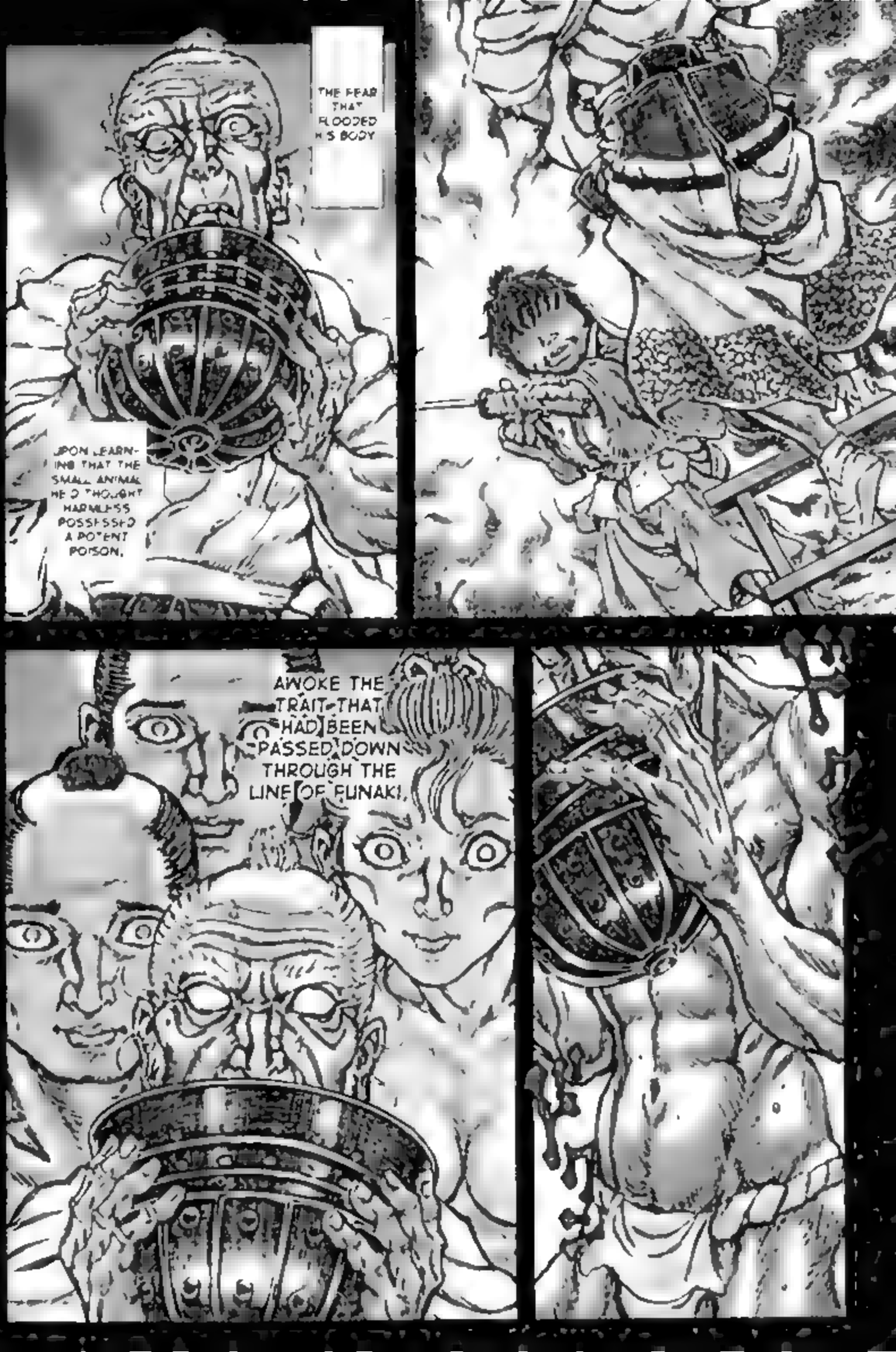
THAT'S SAIDA, ALL RIGHT!
HE'S DONE IT!
SAIDA...



IT
IT'S POSSIBLE

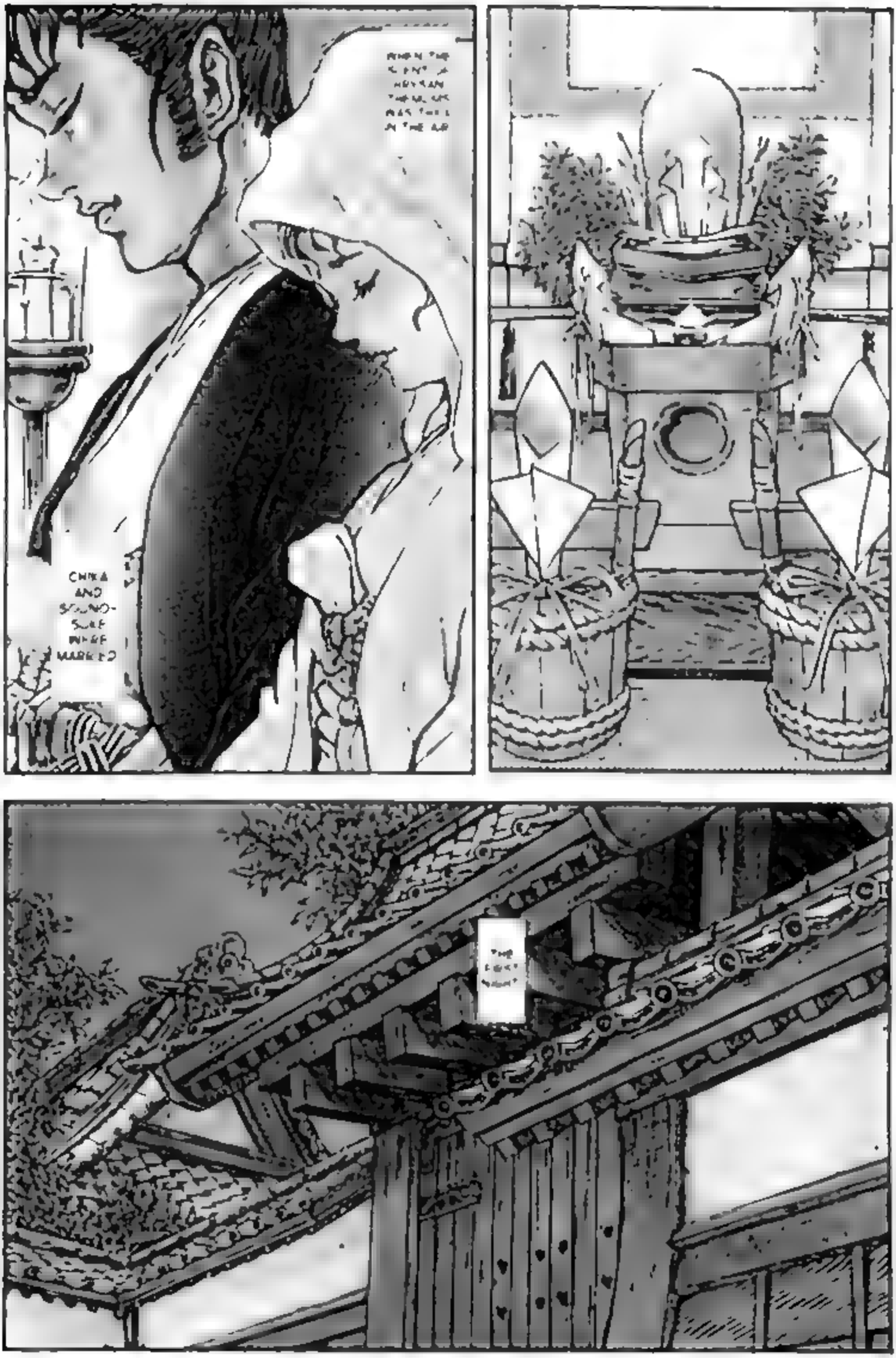
FOR KABUTO-WARI.
I AM READY,

WHEN
WHEN, DID HE BECOME SO SKILLED?


THE FEAR THAT FLOODED HIS BODY
UPON LEARNING THAT THE SMALL ANIMAL HE'D THOUGHT HARMLESS POSSESSED A POTENT POISON,
AWOKE THE TRAIT THAT HAD BEEN PASSED DOWN THROUGH THE LINE OF FUNAKI.

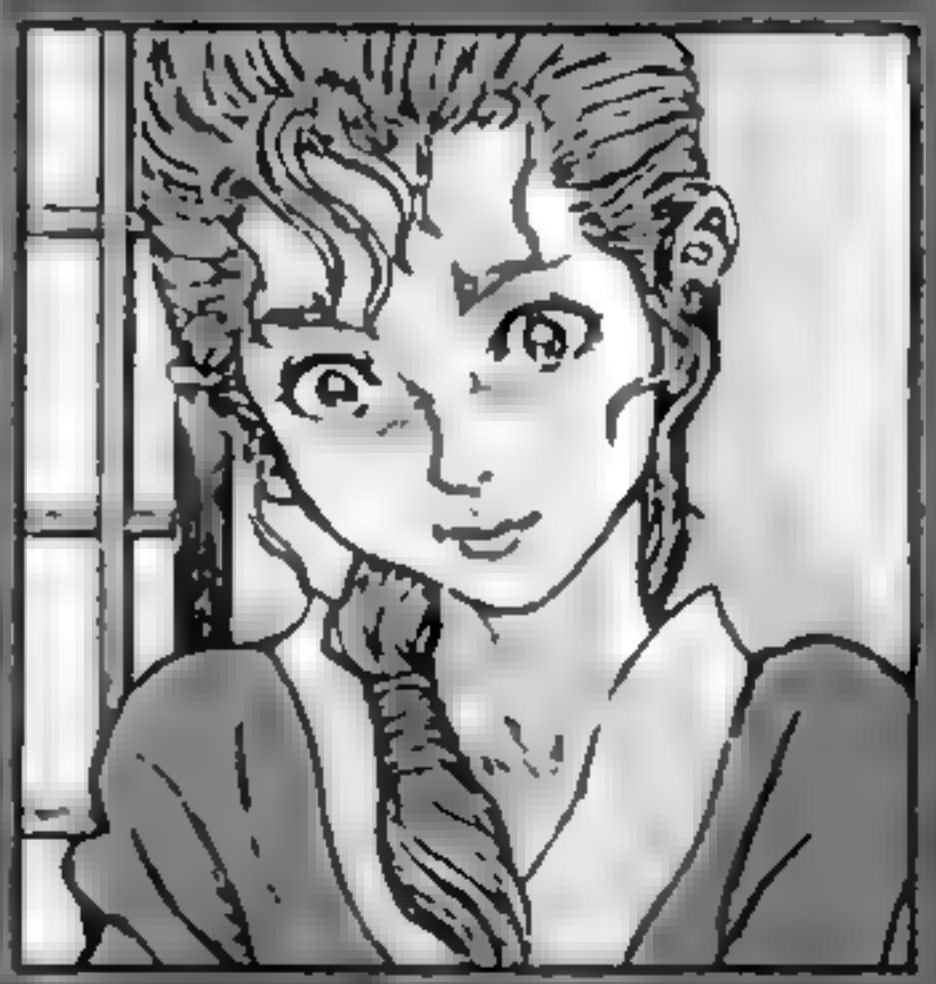
AND THE CELLS OF HIS BODY STIRRED WITH MONSTROUS STRENGTH.

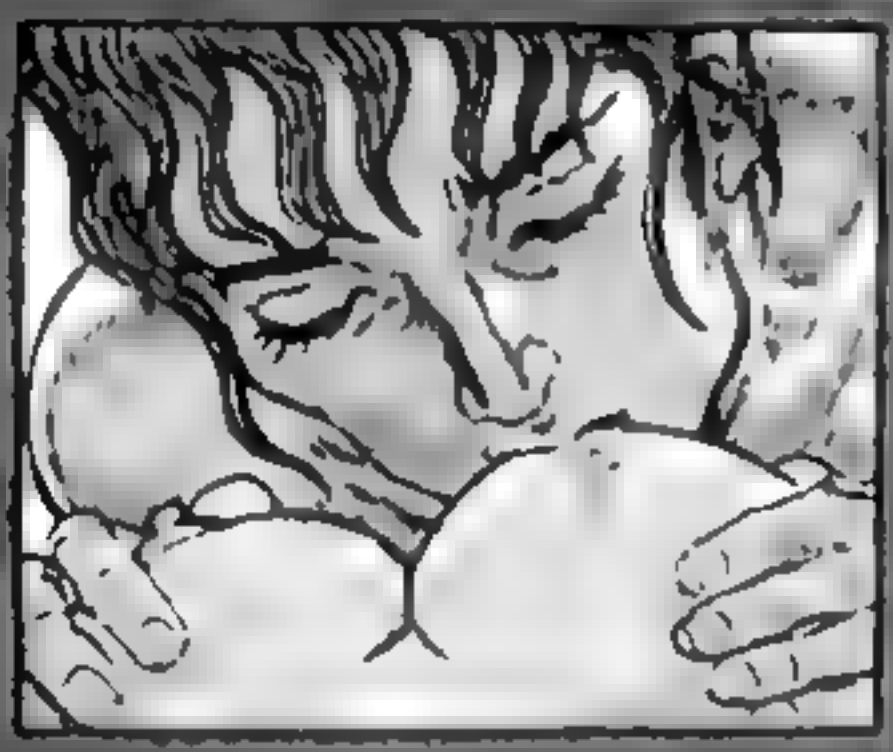
ON THE FIELD OF BATTLE?!
DID YOU THINK THAT THE ENEMY'S HELMET WOULD COME FLYING TO YOU AS YOU EXPECTED.

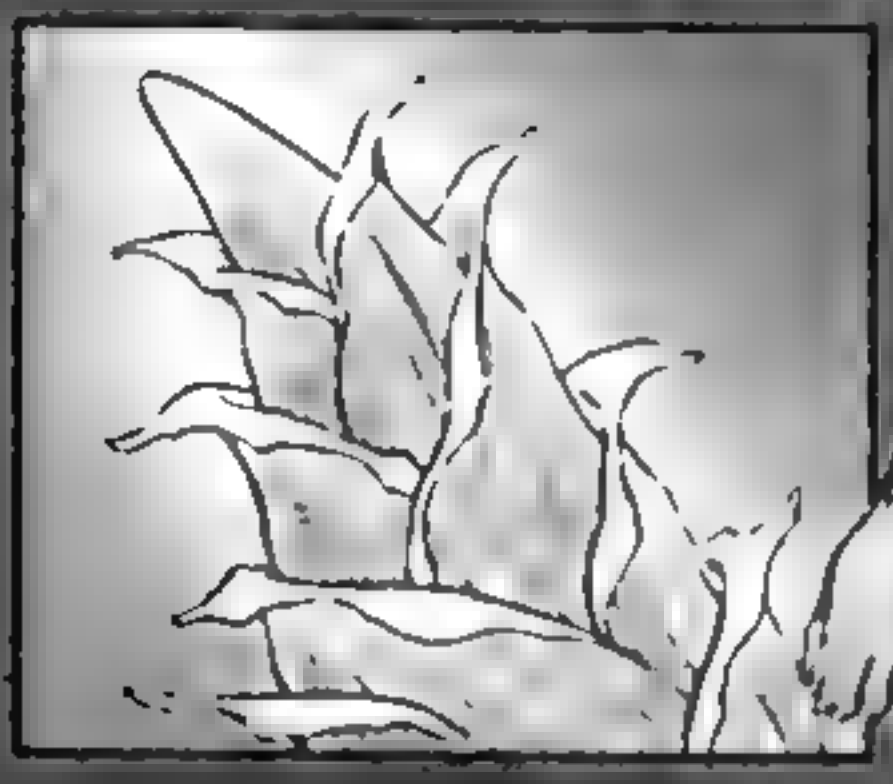

WHEN THE SCENT OF HUMAN SWEAT WAS THICK IN THE AIR
CHIKA AND SOUNO-SUKE WERE MARKED

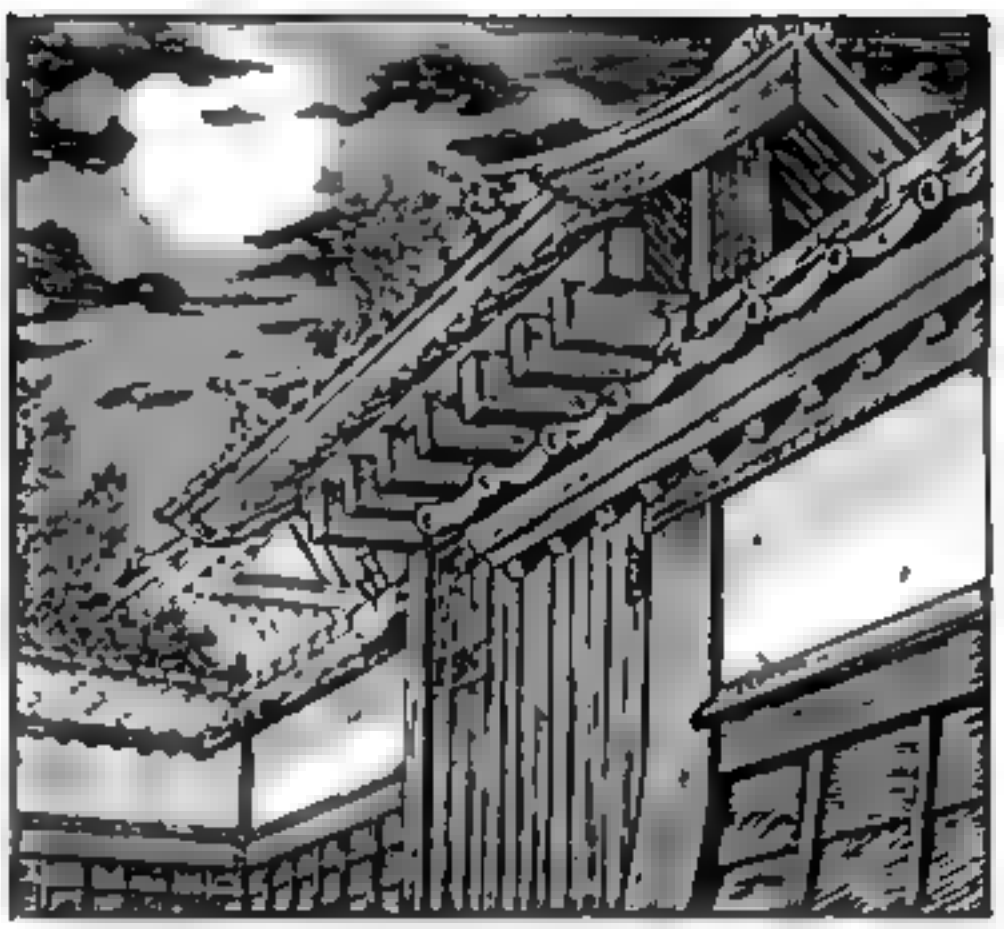
CHAPTER 57
SCAB

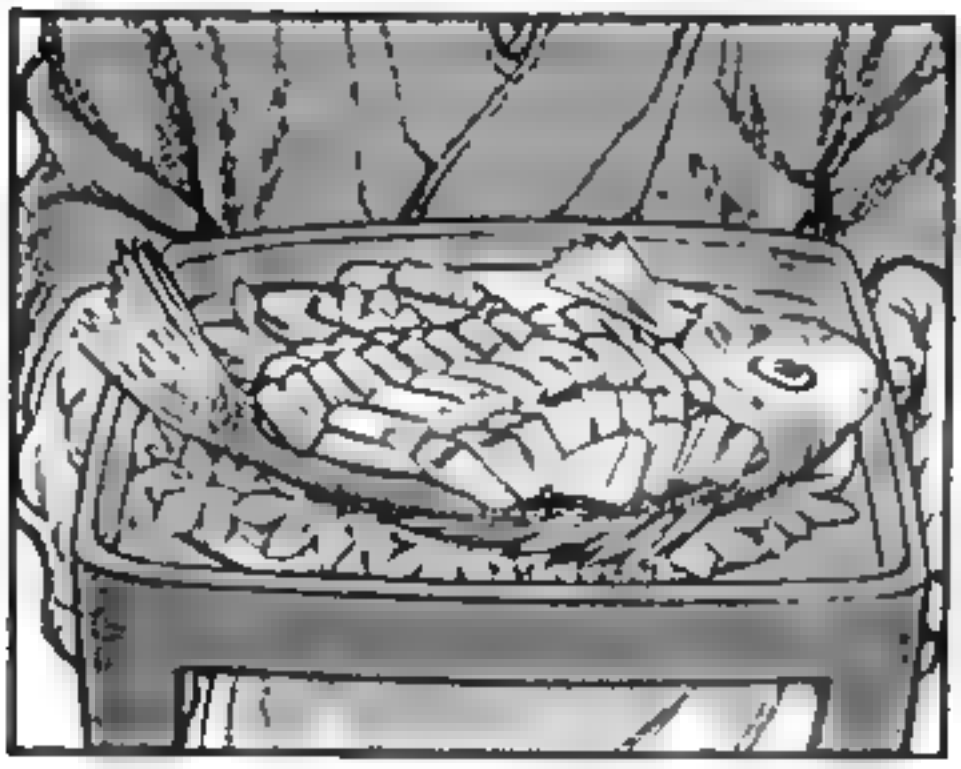
CHIKA
...





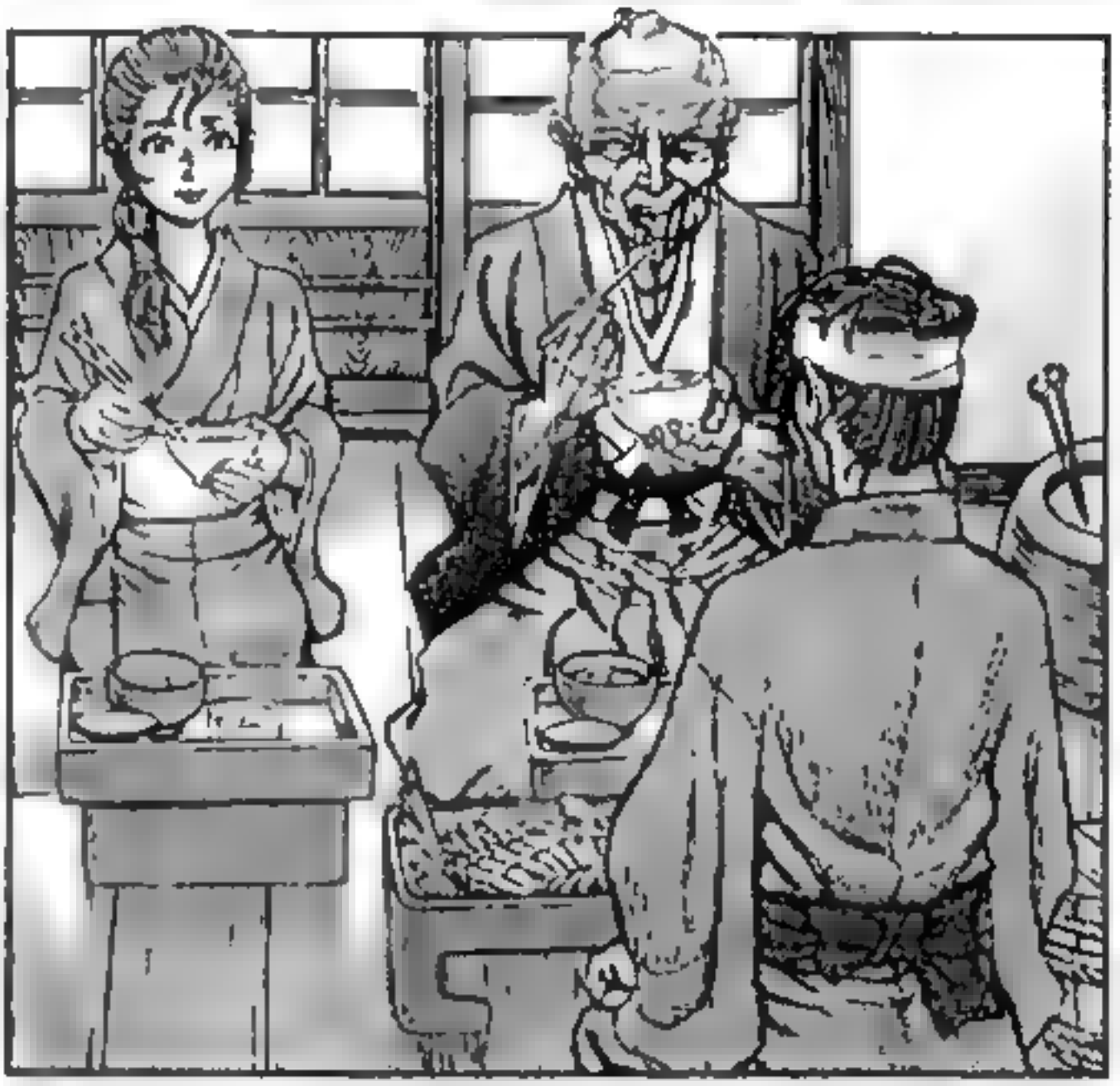






TO THINK THAT CHIKA-DONO, SO STRONG ON THE OUTSIDE,
WOULD FEAR HER FIRST NIGHT OF INTIMACY...

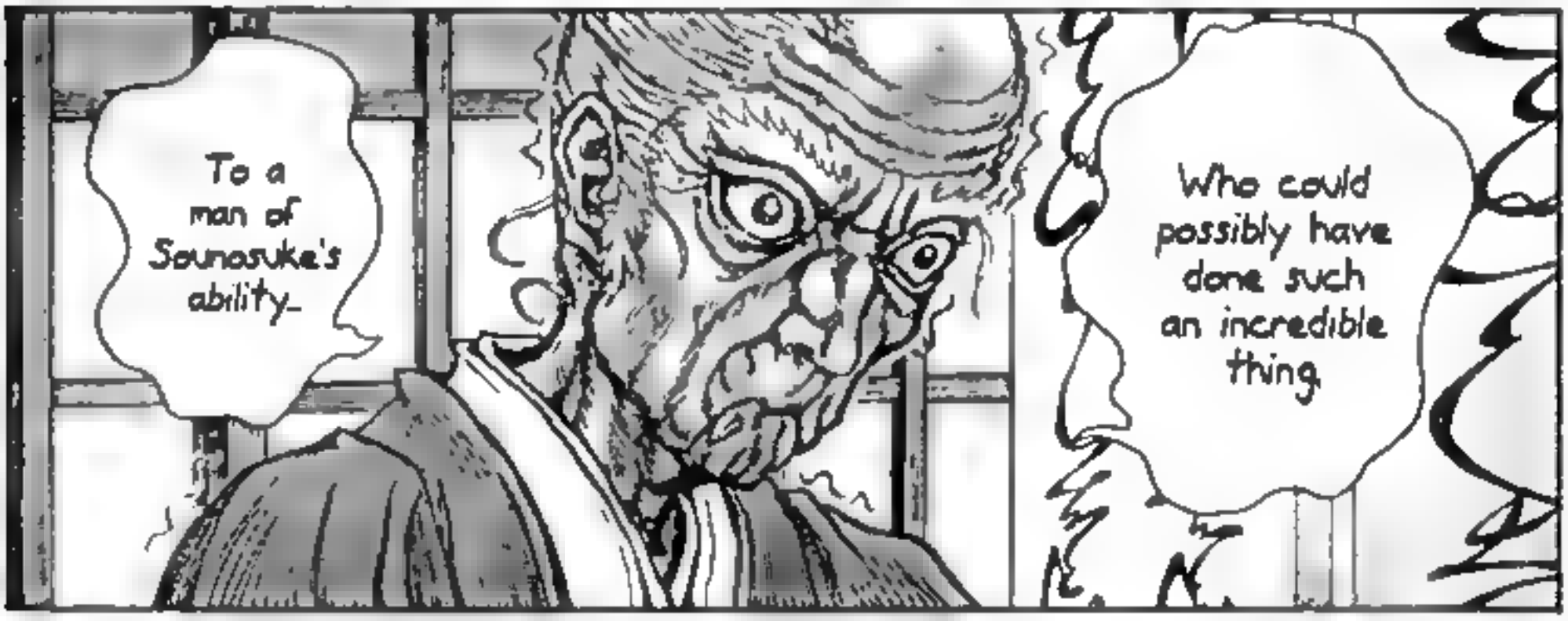
ONE DAY, WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT..
NO NEED TO HURRY.

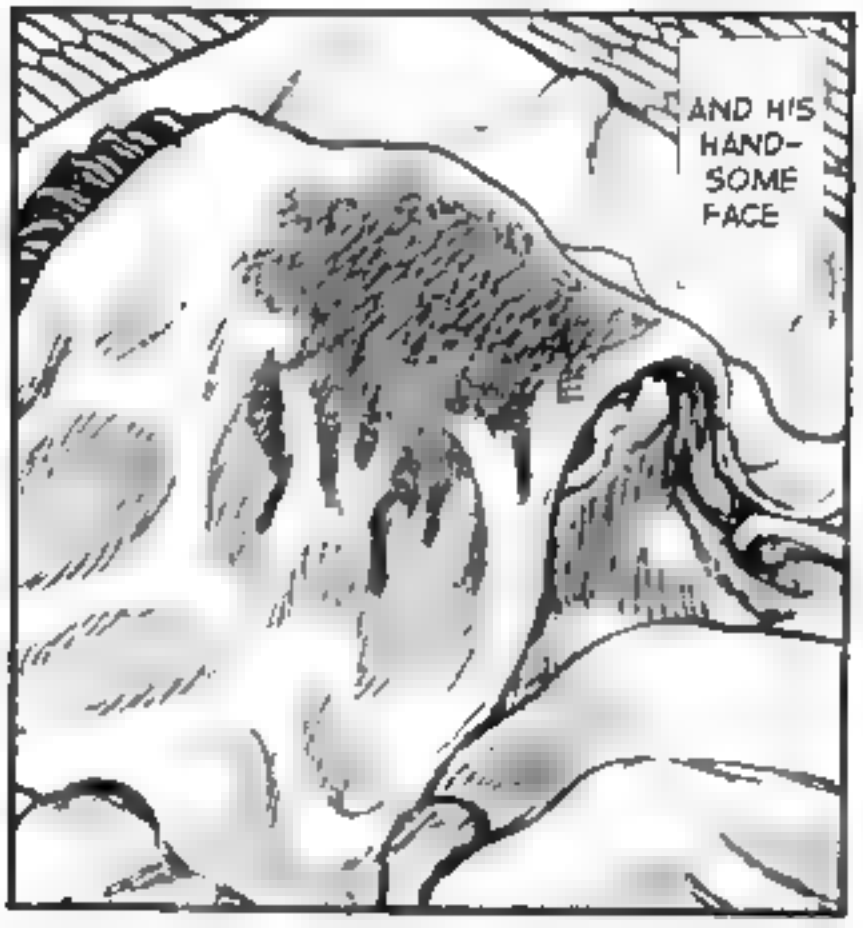


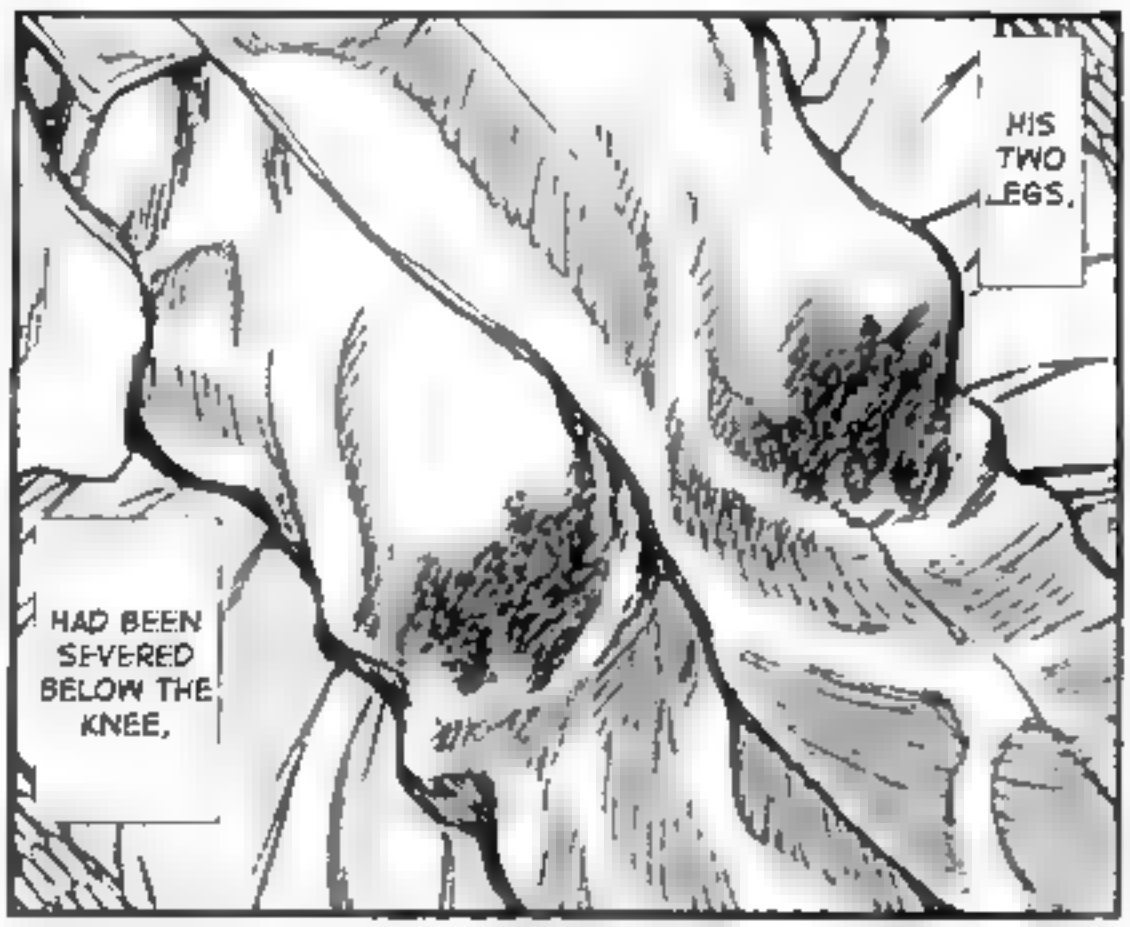
IN JANUARY OF THE NEXT YEAR

SAIDA SOUNOSUKE WAS MURDERED

次郎兵衛

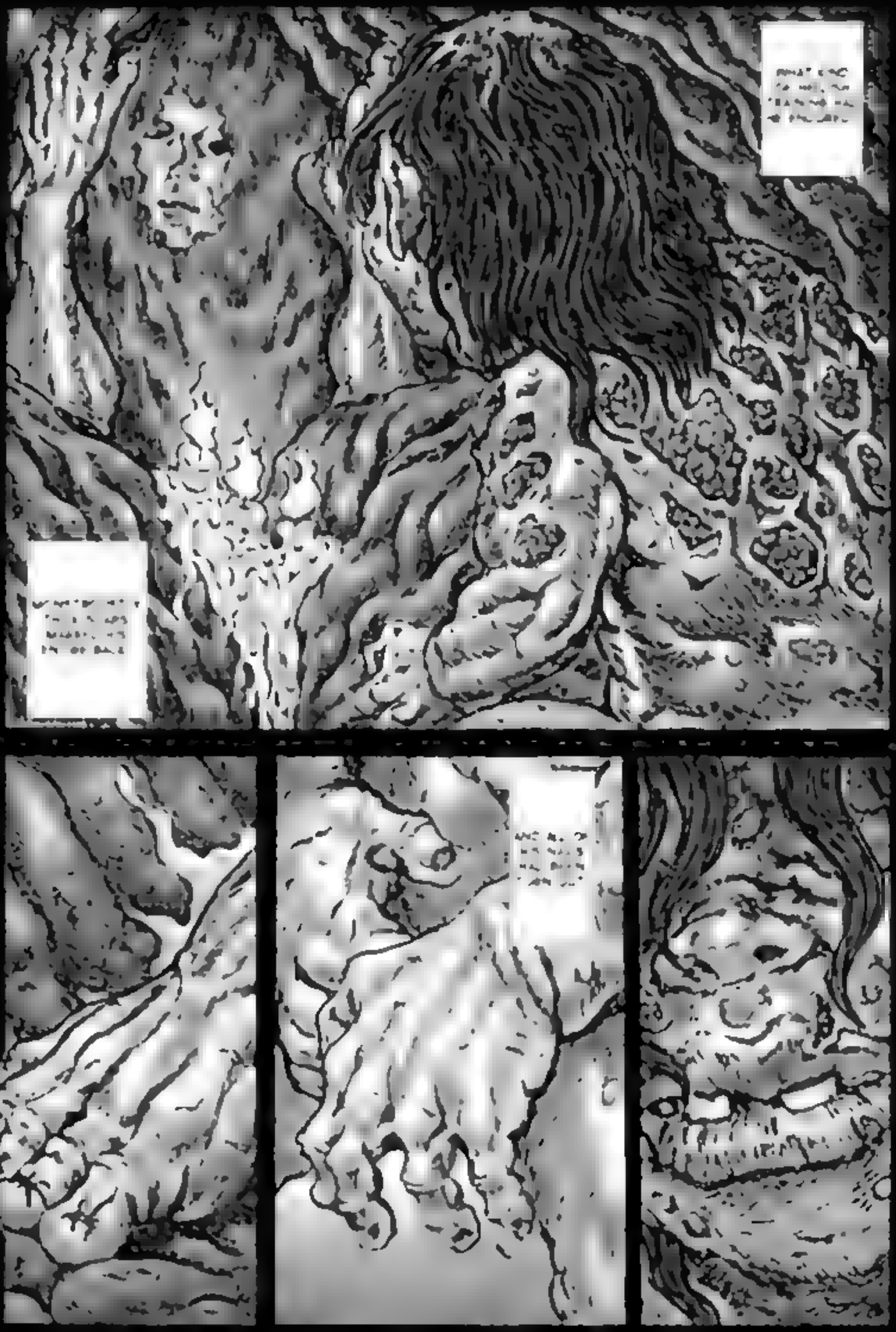

To a man of Sounosuke's ability_
Who could possibly have done such an incredible thing


AND HIS HAND-SOME FACE


HIS TWO LEGS.
HAD BEEN SEVERED BELOW THE KNEE,

Your nose is too low

Saida-sama



Gannosuke, too, has become handsome.

Chika-sama...

INSIDE THE TOAD'S MIND,

A UNIQUE SYSTEM OF BELIEFS WAS BEGINNING TO FORM

SOUNOSUKE-
SAMA..

AND ALREADY HAVE YOU LEFT MY SIDE.

NOT ONCE DID WE CONSUMMATE OUR UNION ...

THAT YEAR, AN UNPRECEDENTED S.X MEN GAVE THEIR NAMES TO THE TEST OF KABUTO-WARI

Guuh!?

BEFORE THE DAY OF KABUTO WARI

EVERY HELMET HAD BEEN SLICED IN TWAIN

HE TOOK ADVANTAGE OF OUR COMPLA CENCE

THE CHAR ACTERS HAD BEEN WRITTEN IN HUMAN WASTE

*As on a true battlefield.

KANEI
EIGHTH
YEAR
MAY-5TH

SIX MEN, WHO HAD DONATED THEIR OWN HELMETS, STEPPED FORWARD

AS A WOMAN IN FULL ARMOR LOOKED ON,

KURAKAWA KIZAEMON, WHO LAST YEAR HAD ONLY MANAGED A SLIGHT CUT, RAISED HIS SWORD

AS ONE BY ONE THEY BOWED THEIR HEADS IN FAILURE,

MOST EXCELLENT.

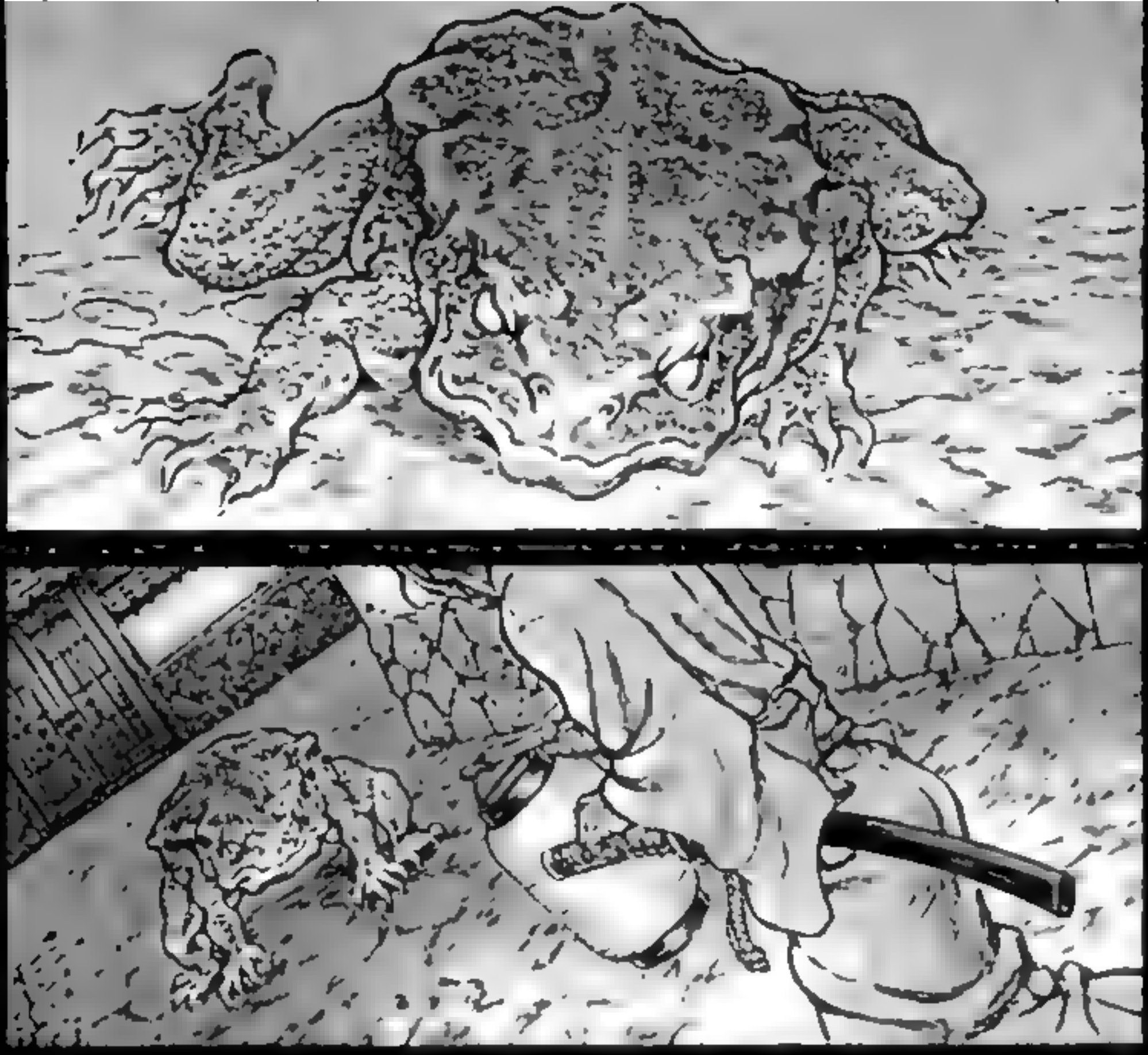
WELL DONE, KIZAE-MON!

CHIKA-DONO...

CHIKA-DON.O

NOW THAT I'VE SUCCEEDED AT KABUTO-WARI, CHIKA-DONO AND I ARE MAN AND WIFE IN ALL BUT NAME!

NOBODY WILL THINK IT STRANGE IF I VISIT HER TONIGHT!



Kurokawa-
sama

Your bent legs are so unsightly —

Your nose is too low.

You are not fated to be with Chika-sama

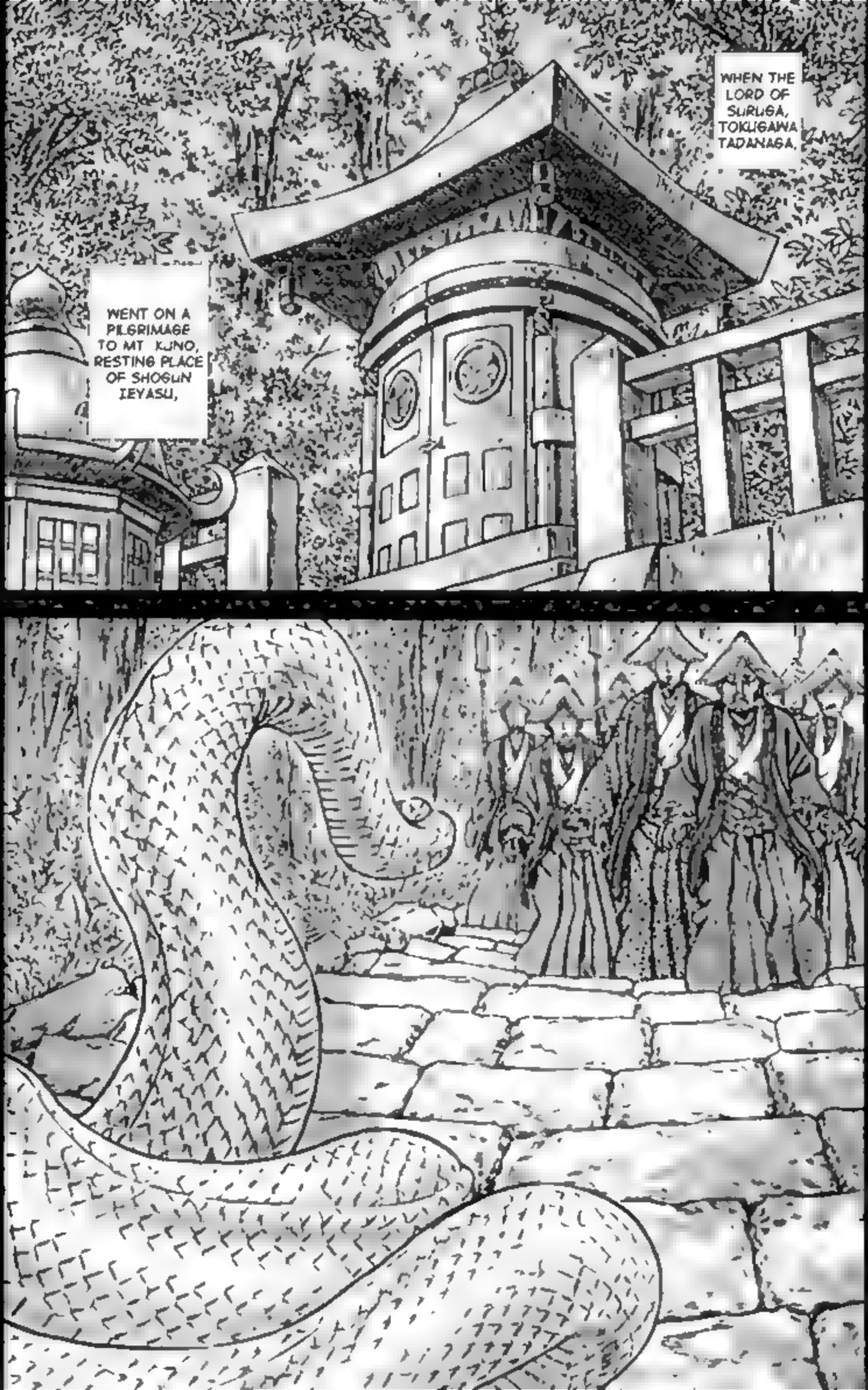
USING HIS ENORMOUS HEAD AS A FULCRUM,

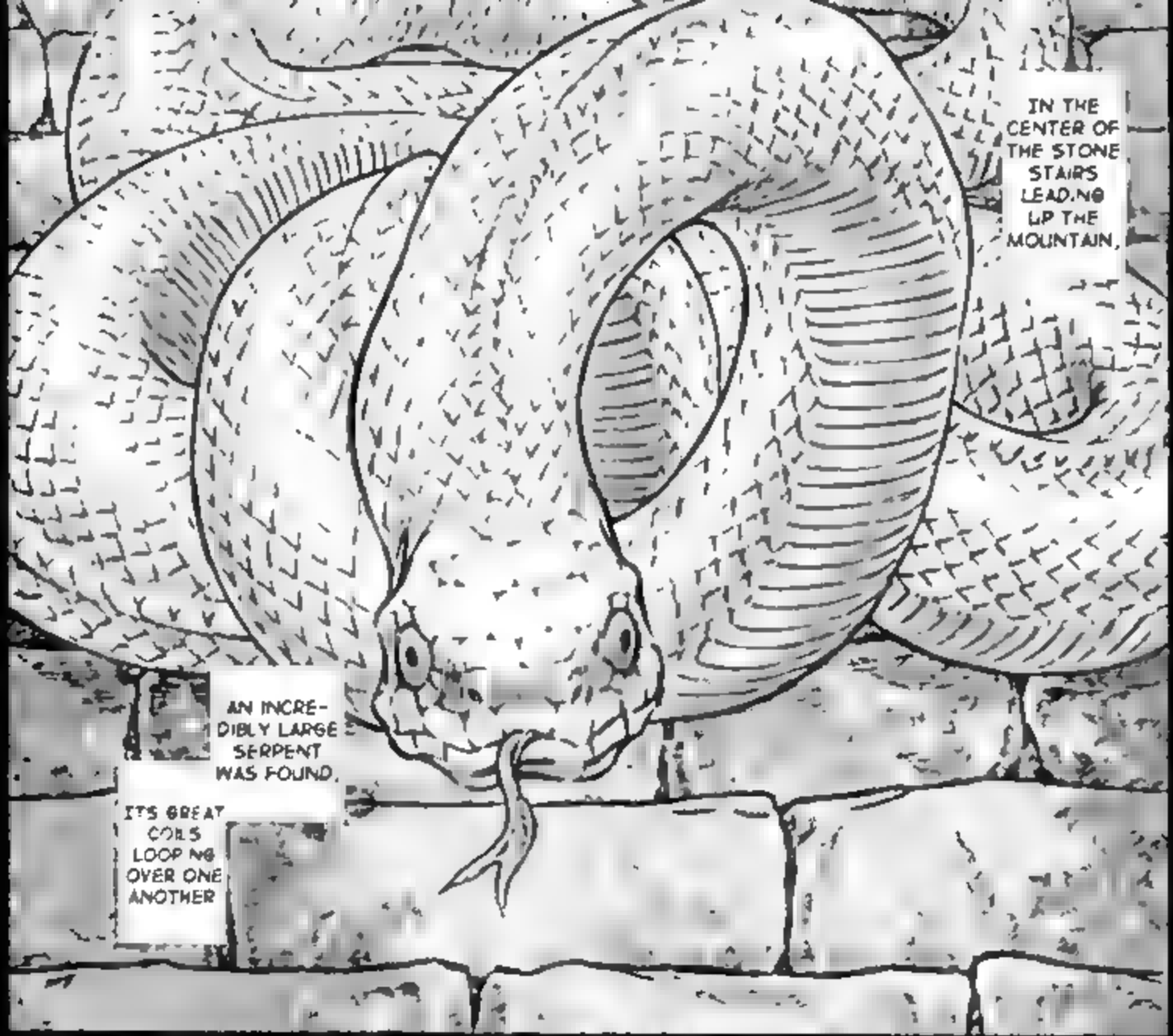
HE SPRANG UPWARDS WITH HIS NECK AND BACK MUSCLES, AN UNIMAGINABLE TECHNIQUE!

WHO COULD HAVE DEVISED A COUNTER AGAINST THIS TECHNIQUE, ONE WHICH WAS NOT MADE FOR HUMAN USE?

Did you see my "Gama Kenpou?

CHAPTER 58
GREAT SERPENT


WHEN THE LORD OF SURUGA, TOKUGAWA TADANAGA,
WENT ON A PILGRIMAGE TO MT KUNO, RESTING PLACE OF SHOGUN IEYASU,

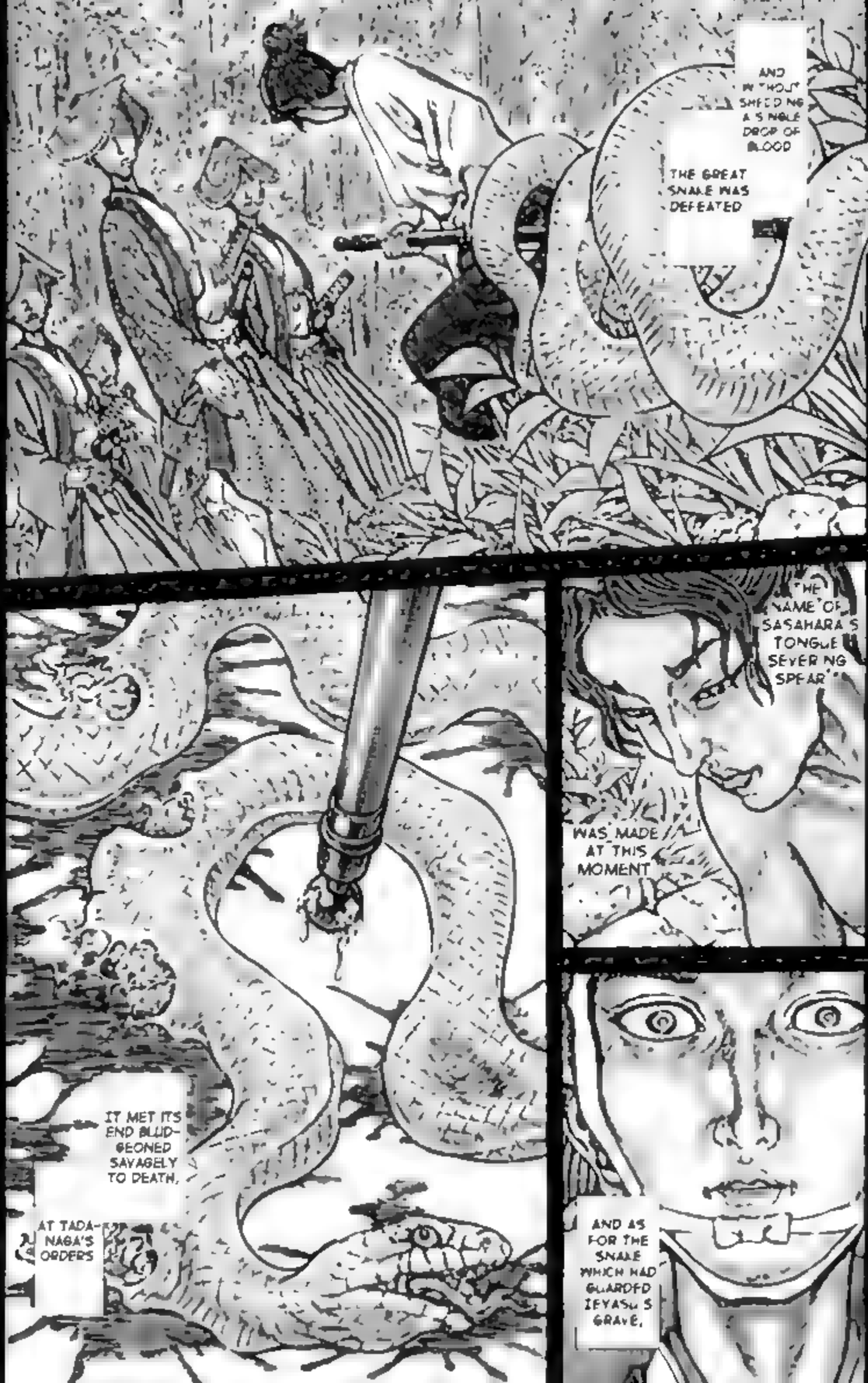

IN THE CENTER OF THE STONE STAIRS LEADING UP THE MOUNTAIN,
AN INCREDIBLY LARGE SERPENT WAS FOUND.
ITS GREAT COILS LOOPING OVER ONE ANOTHER

THE YOUNG LORD FOUND HIS WAY BLOCKED

YET TO KILL A LIVING THING ON THE SACRED GROUNDS WHERE IEYASU SAMA HIMSELF LAY SLUMBERING,
WAS EQUALLY UNTHINKABLE
HIS SERVANTS STOOD TRANSFIXED UNABLE TO MOVE AS THOUGH BOUND BY IRON CHAINS
NO MISTAKE OR FAULT COULD BE ALLOWED IN FRONT OF THEIR LORD.

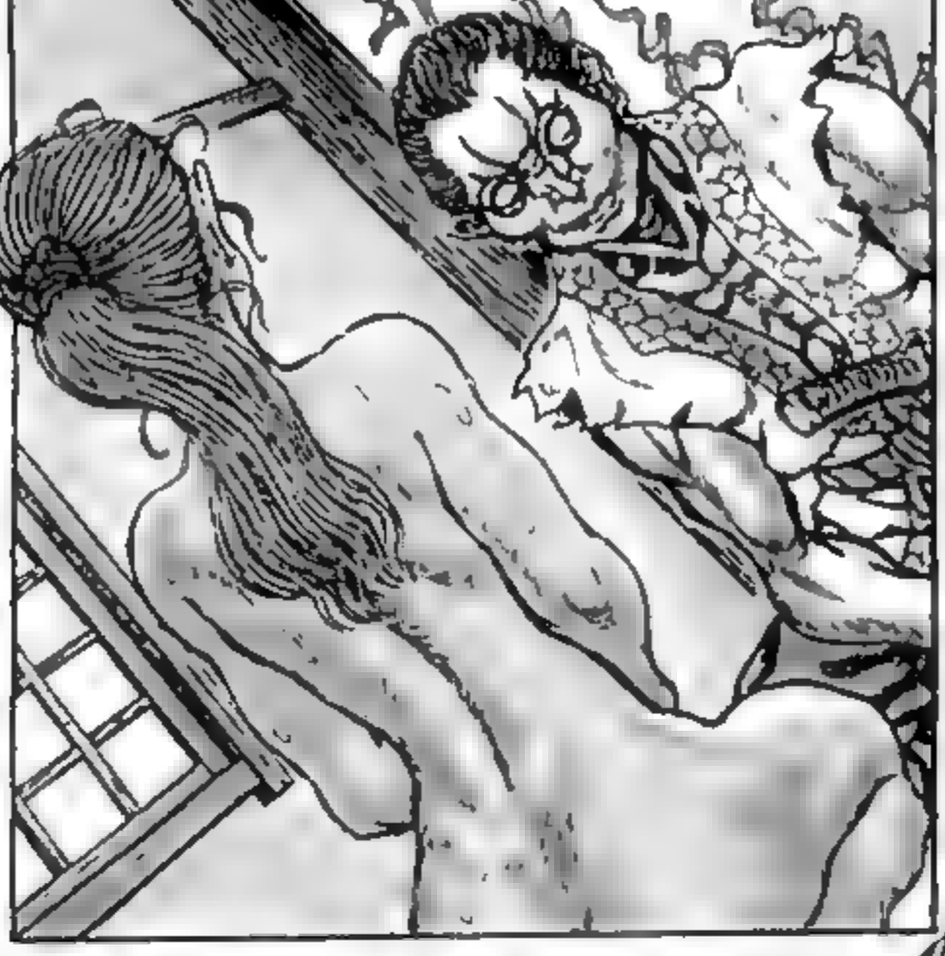
FROM THE BACK OF THE LINE, A YOUNG MAN STEPPED FORWARD,
A BODY-GUARD NAMED SASAHARA SHUZA-BUROU

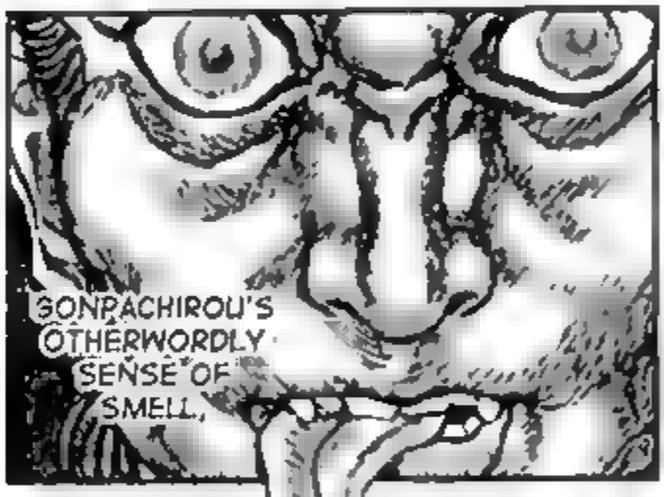
HIS SPEAR FLASHED
IMPALING THE FLICKERING TONGUE,

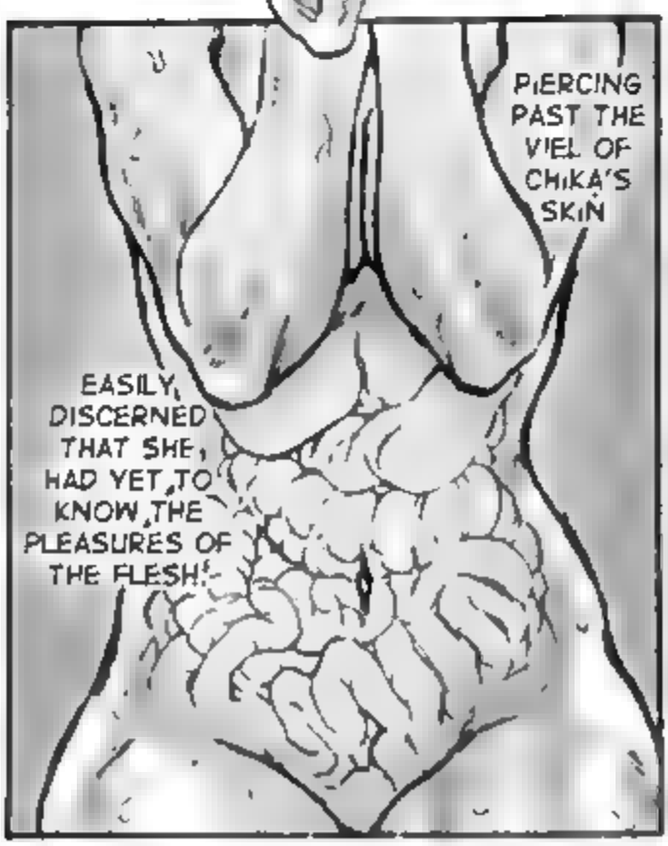

AND IN THOUGHT SHEDDING A SINGLE DROP OF BLOOD
THE GREAT SNAKE WAS DEFEATED
THE NAME OF SASAHARA'S TONGUE SEVERING SPEAR WAS MADE AT THIS MOMENT
IT MET ITS END BLUDGEONED SAVAGELY TO DEATH,
AT TADANAGA'S ORDERS
AND AS FOR THE SNAKE WHICH HAD GUARDED IEYASU'S GRAVE,

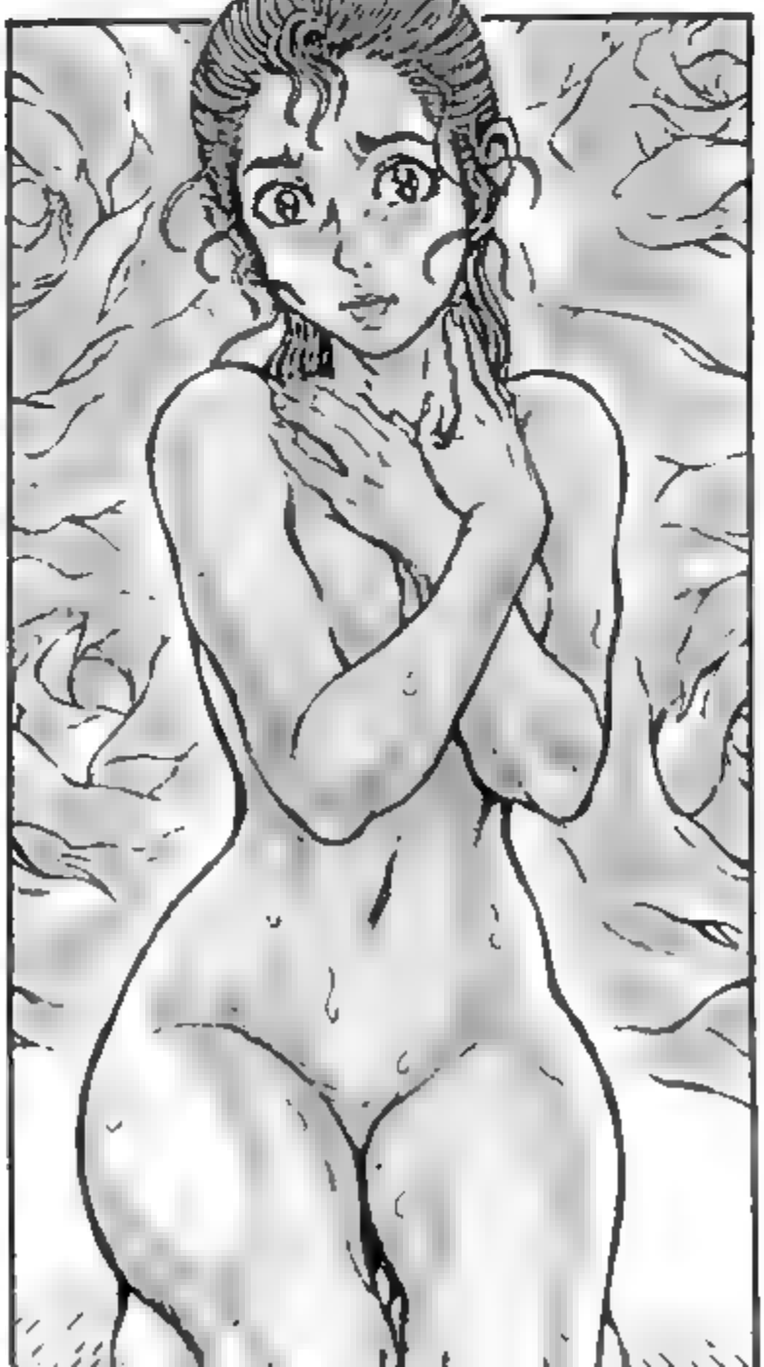
SASAHARA GONPA-CHIROU,
SHUUZA-BUROU'S COUSIN,

HAD ALSO BEEN CLOSE FRIENDS WITH FUNAKI HYOUMA AND KAZUMA
Gonpa-chirou, what has brought you here?

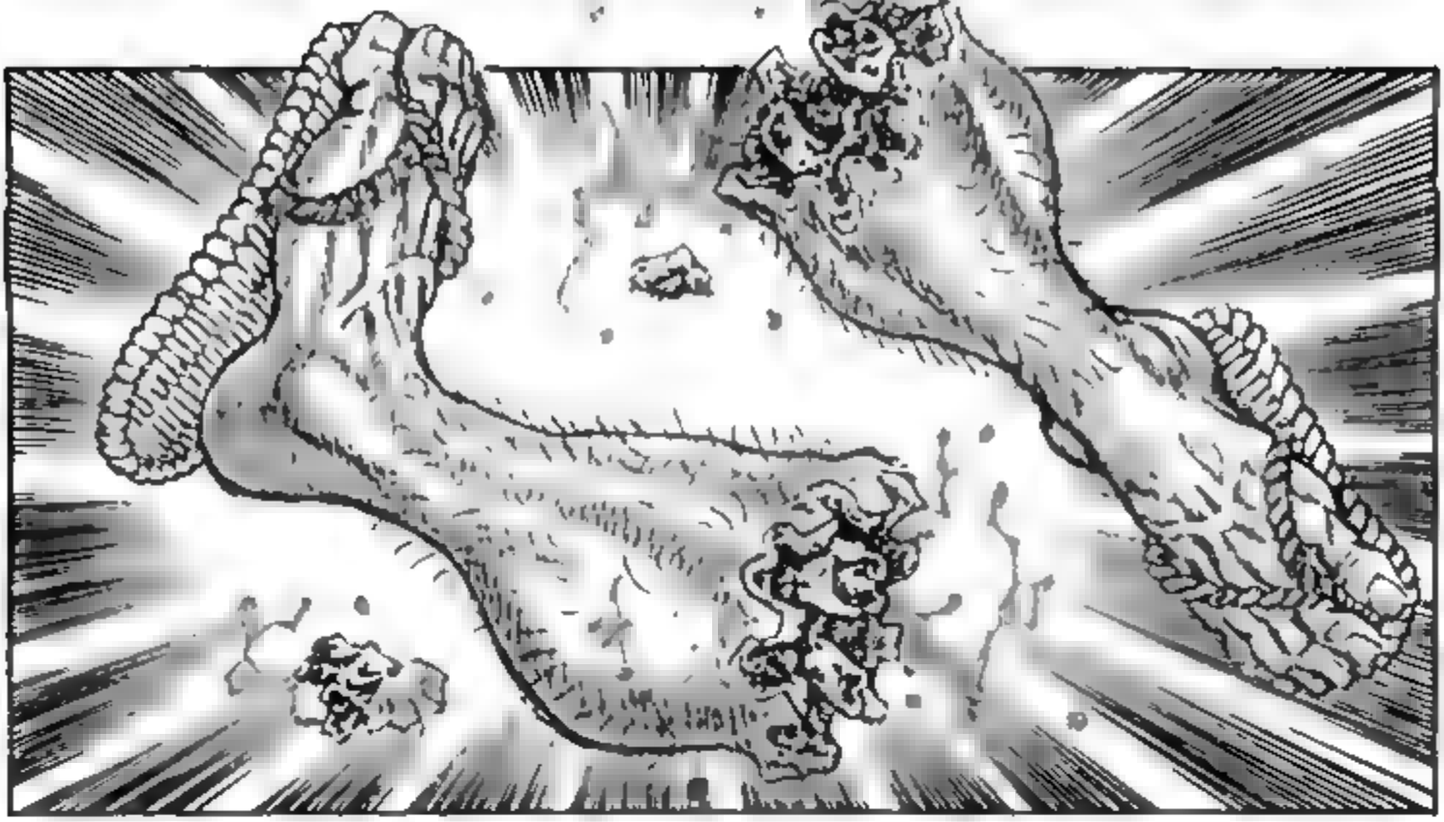


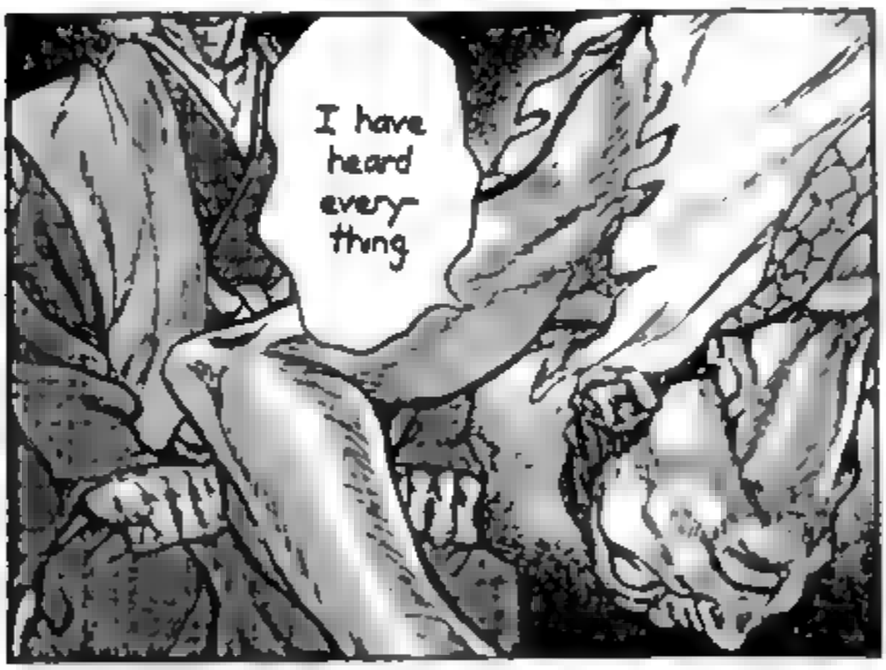

GONPACHIROU'S
OTHERWORDLY
SENSE OF
SMELL,

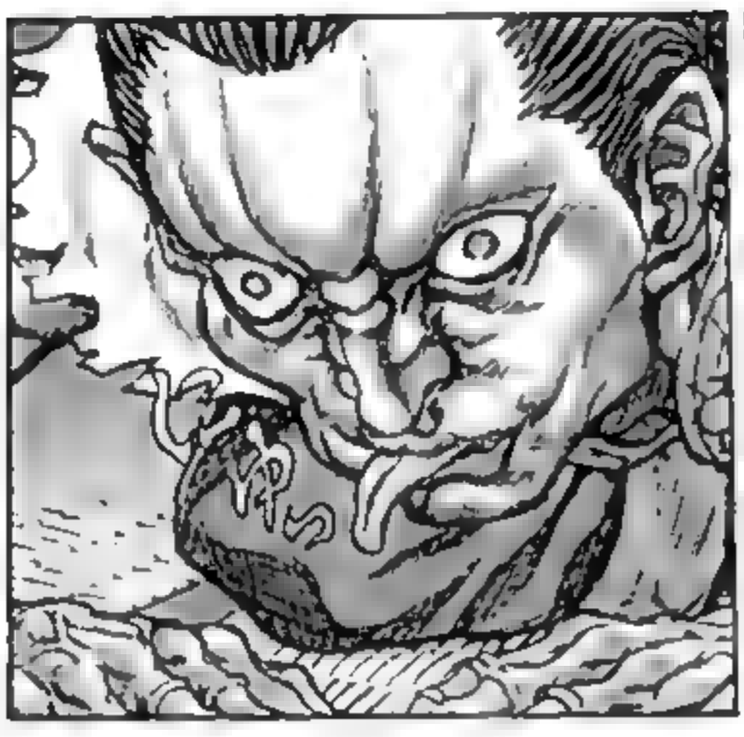

PIERCING
PAST THE
VIEL OF
CHIKA'S
SKIN
EASILY,
DISCERNED
THAT SHE,
HAD YET TO
KNOW THE
PLEASURES OF
THE FLESH!



PLEASE GIVE CHIKA-DONO TO ME!
That you would say such a thing...
Suzuhara-sama




I have heard every-thing



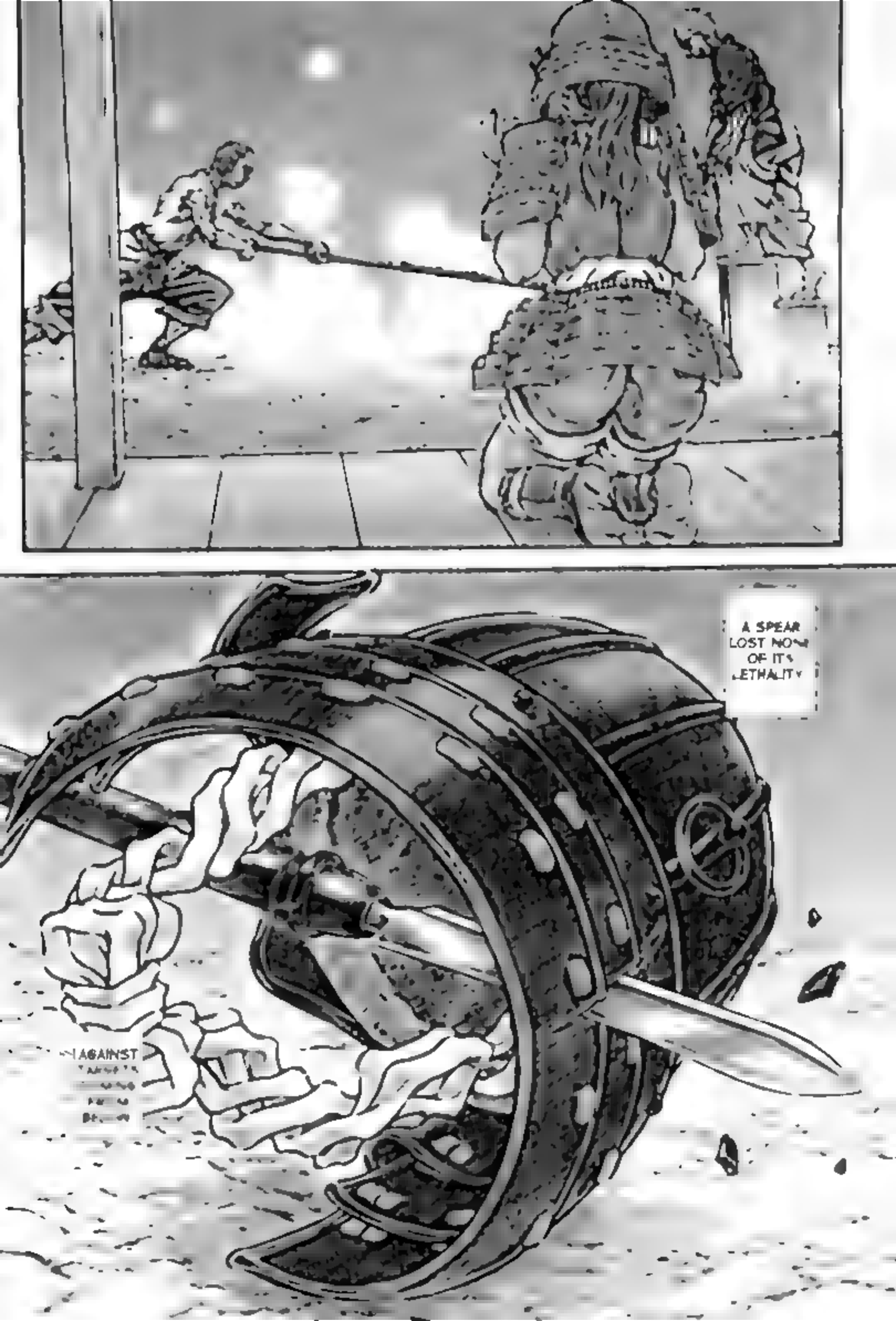
Will you do it, Gonpa-chirou_

THE CULPRIT,
IN THE WAYS OF THE SWORD ...
OBVIOUSLY A MAN SKILLED IN THE EXTREME.

That is.
As a sword reaches the bottom of its arc, it loses its force.
If it were to be directed against a man who targeted the legs while lying prone on the ground.

AT THIS SIGHT, THE MAIDEN SAW FLASHES OF A CERTAIN PERSON SUPERIMPOSED ON BONPA-CHIROU
KUTSUKI GANNOSUKE...

THERE WAS SOMETHING THAT HAD TO BE DONE.
IN ORDER TO MARRY THE MAIDEN

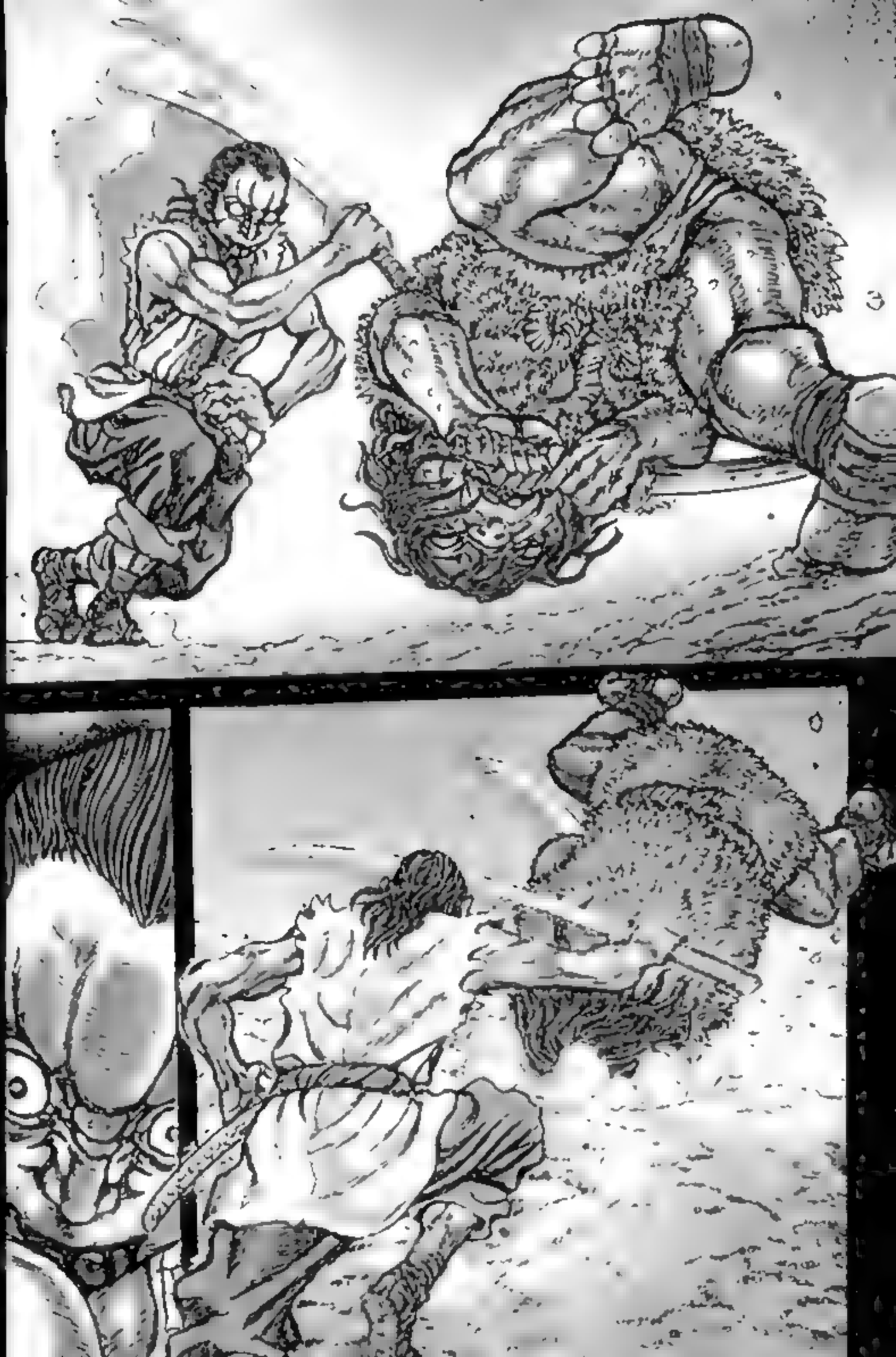

A SPEAR
LOST NONE
OF ITS
LETHALITY
AGAINST

LIKE WILDFIRE
NEWS OF CHIKA AND GONPACHIROU'S ENGAGEMENT SPREAD THROUGH SURUGA.
DIRECTING HIS RETAINER WAKATO SASUKE TO BEAR HIS SPEAR
SASAHARA GONPACHIROU READIED HIMSELF FOR AN ATTACK.
WHICH COULD COME AT ANY MOMENT

STAGGERED BY THE DIZZYINGLY FOUL STENCH
BONPACHIROU COVERED HIS FACE

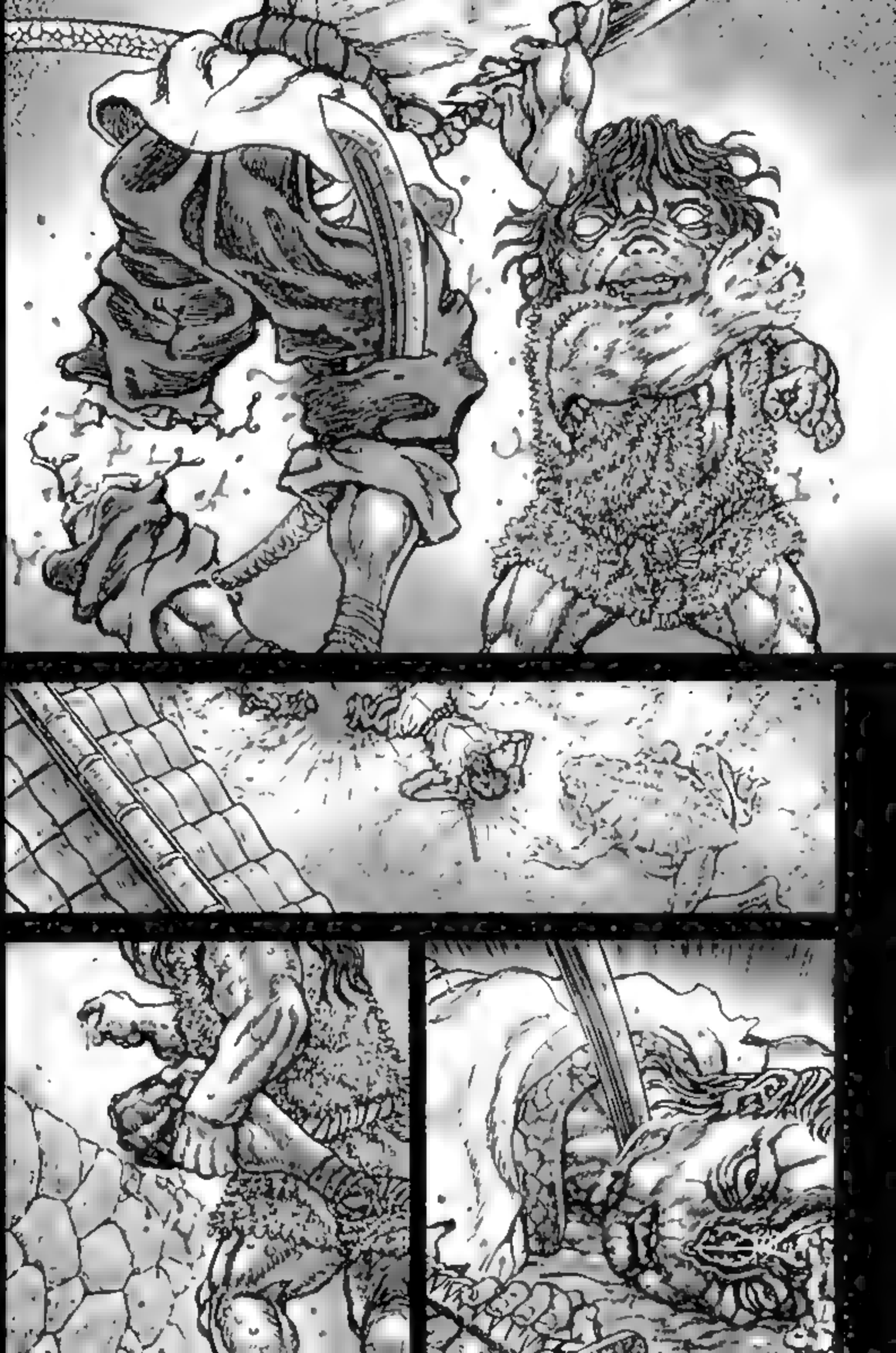
GET RID OF THE ENEMY'S WEAPON BEFORE THE BATTLE.

WAS A STYLE BASED ON THE MINDSET OF WAR!
GAMA KENPOU.
BY BITING HIS OWN TONGUE
GONPA-CHIROU REGAINED HIS BEARINGS



BONPA
CHIPOU'S
DAT'OU

STRIKING AT AN AWKWARD ANGLE AGAINST THE SCARS OF BANN'S SPINNING BODY
SNAPPED CLEANLY IN TWO



CHIKA-SAMA
IS FATED TO
BE ONE WITH
GANNOSUKE.
NO MATTER
WHO, THAT MAN
WILL BE FOUND
DEAD WITH HIS
NOSE AND LEGS
CUT OFF.
IF SHE
BECOMES
INTIMATE
WITH ANY
OTHER
MAN,

THE MATTER OF KUTSUKI GANNOSUKE AND THE MAIDEN CHIKA'S FATE WAS SETTLED,

IN THE SIXTH YEAR OF KAN EI ON SEPTEMBER 24TH

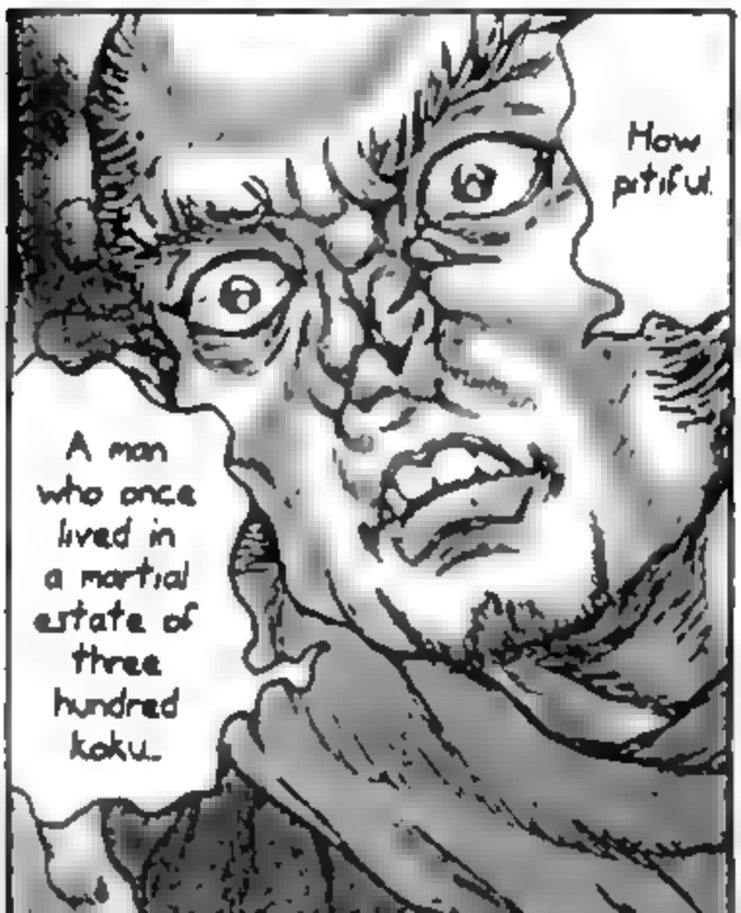
THE DAY THAT AN UNPRECEDENTED TOURNAMENT, ONE THAT SANCTIONED [illegible] USE OF LIVE BLADES

WAS HELD IN THE CASTLE OF SURUGA.

shigurui

Every thing begins with loss.

CHAPTER 59
PHANTOM
LIMB


How pitiful.
A man who once lived in a martial estate of three hundred koku.

It's like a criminal's cottage.

How the mighty have fallen..
Unrivaled of Noubi!

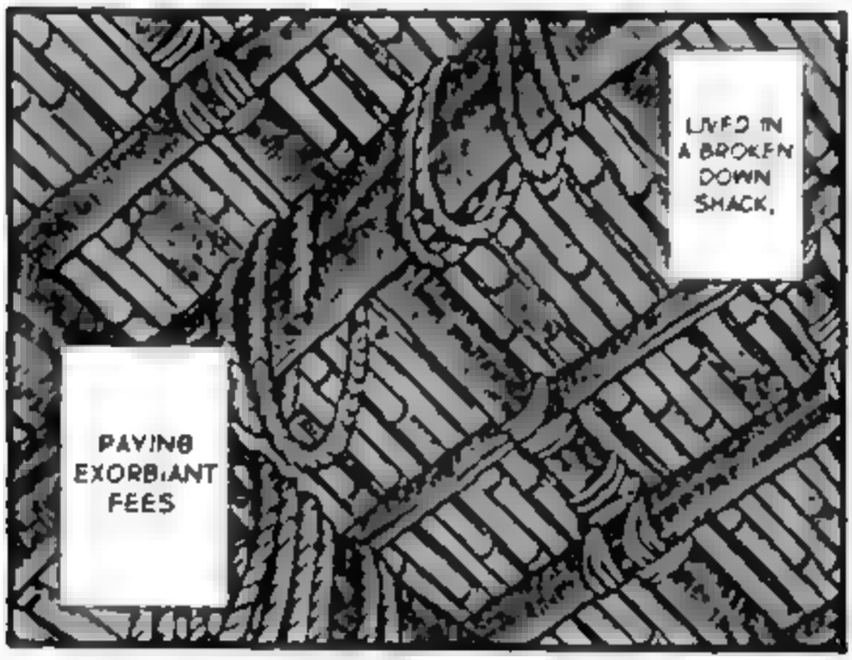
If it were me I would have already slit my belly.
Living on with such shame is not a samurai's way

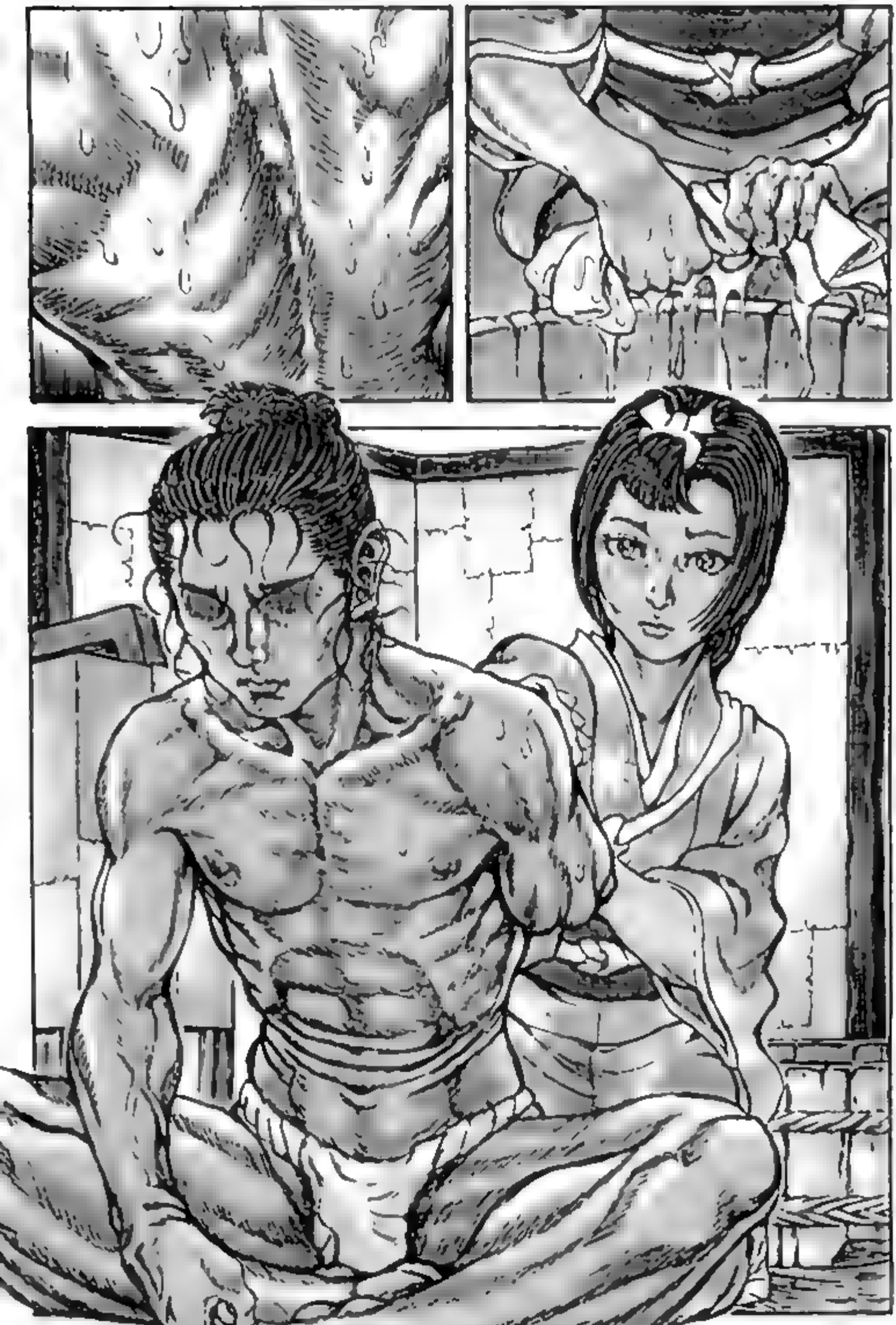
KAKEGAWA
VILLAGE OF
AWAMOTO

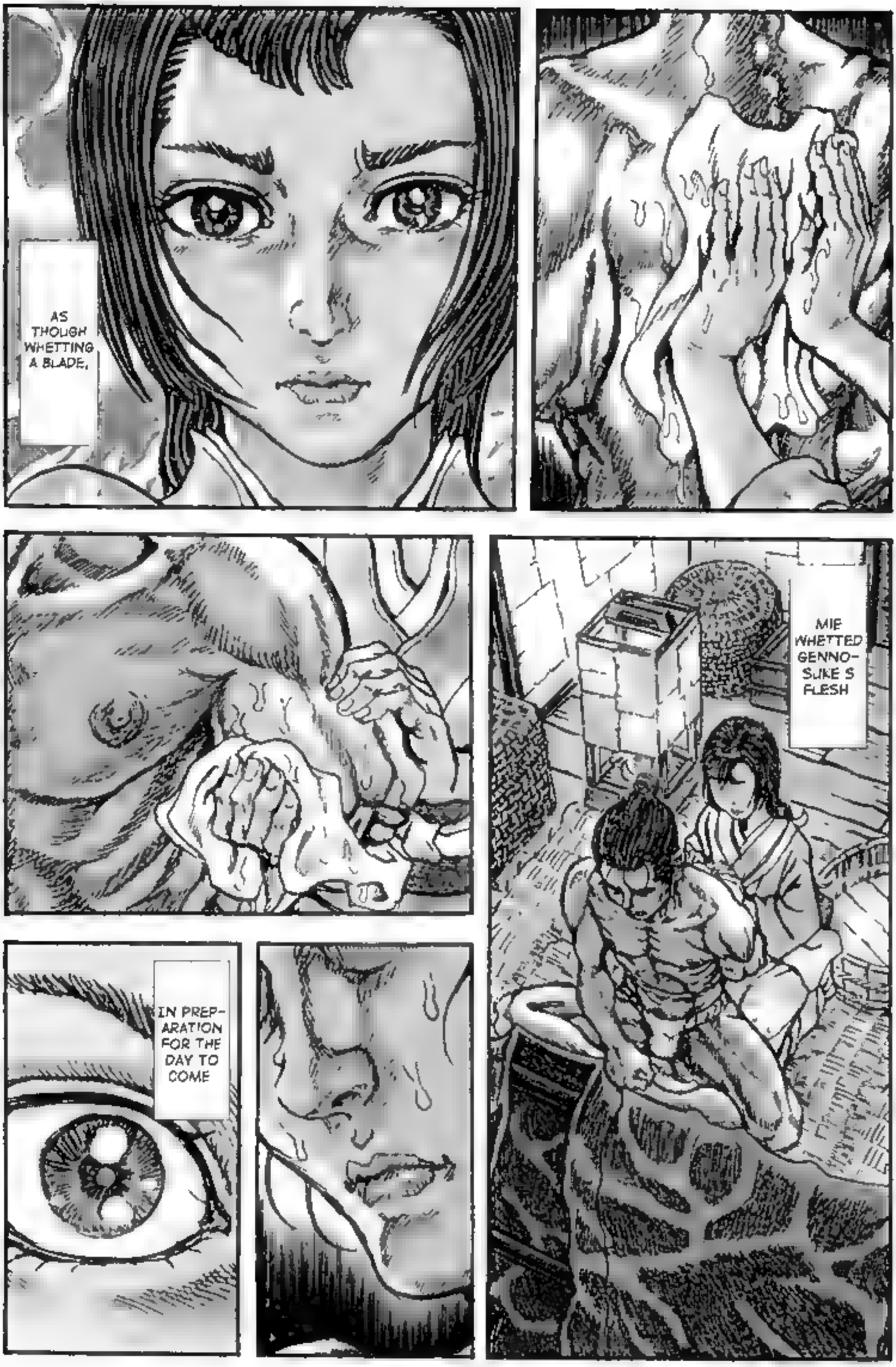
THE PEOPLE OF THE VILLAGE
IGNORANT OF THE FACT THAT SUBLORD IYEMITSU HAD RAISED AN ARMY TO CRUSH THE CLAN OF SHIMAZU'S
FROM TAKING THEIR OWN LIVES

AND SO THE WOUNDED TIGER,
TOGETHER WITH THE MAIDEN.

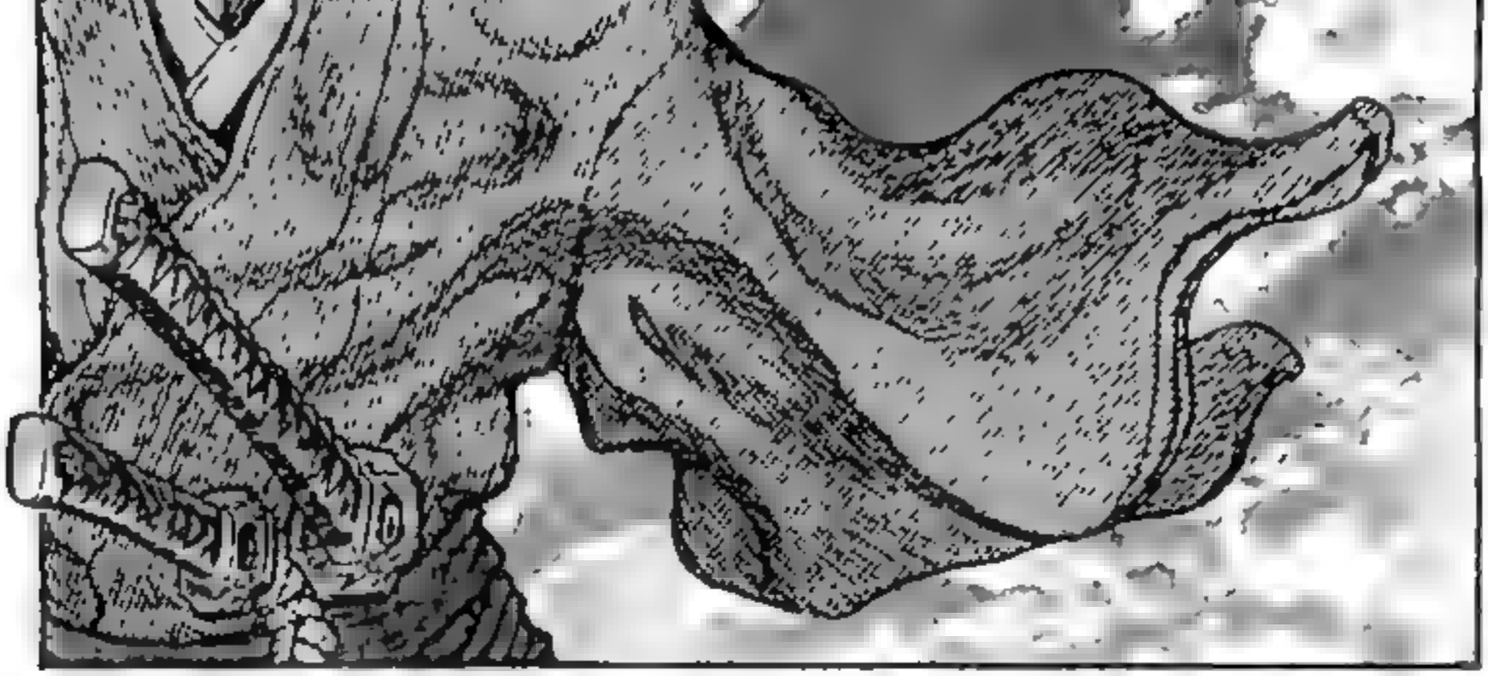
DESPISED GENNOSUKE FOR DARING TO LIVE WITH HIS SHAME,
AND NOT ONE OF THEM HELD OUT A HELPING HAND

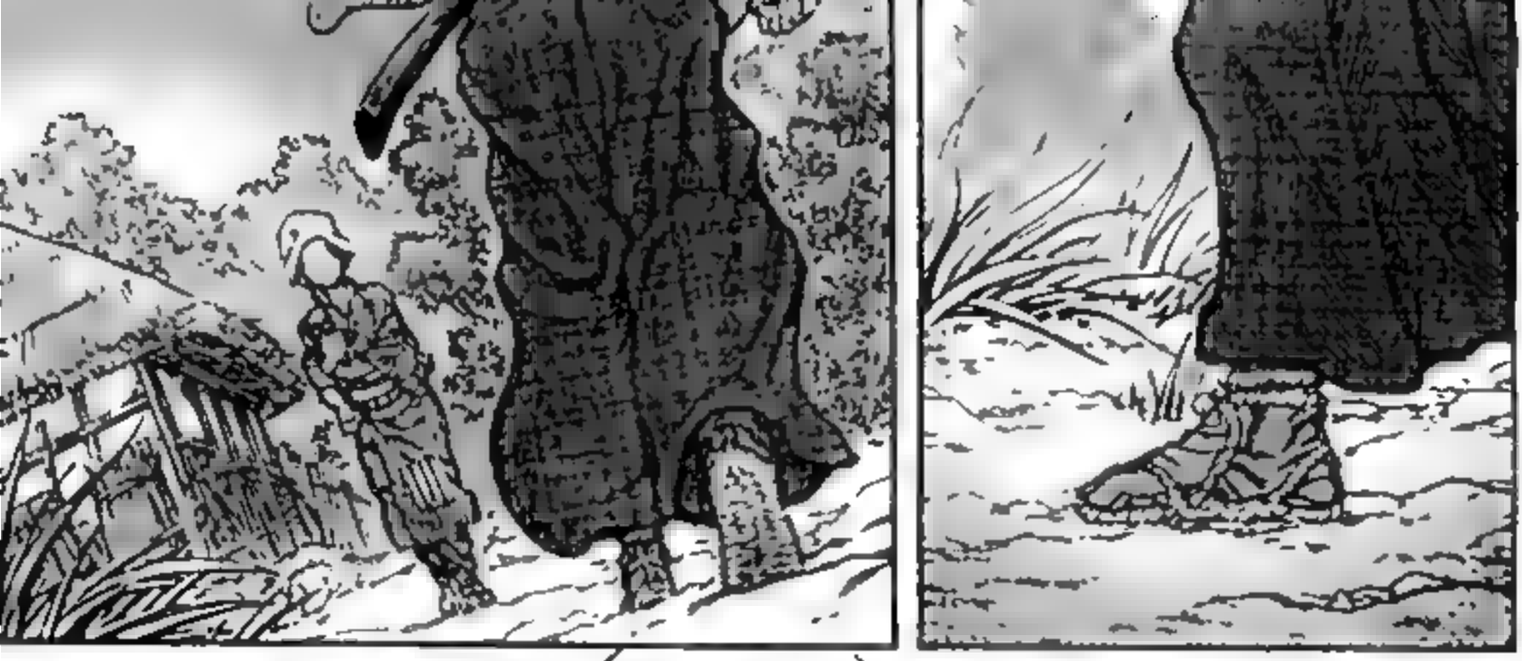

LIVED IN A BROKEN DOWN SHACK,
PAYING EXORBITANT FEES

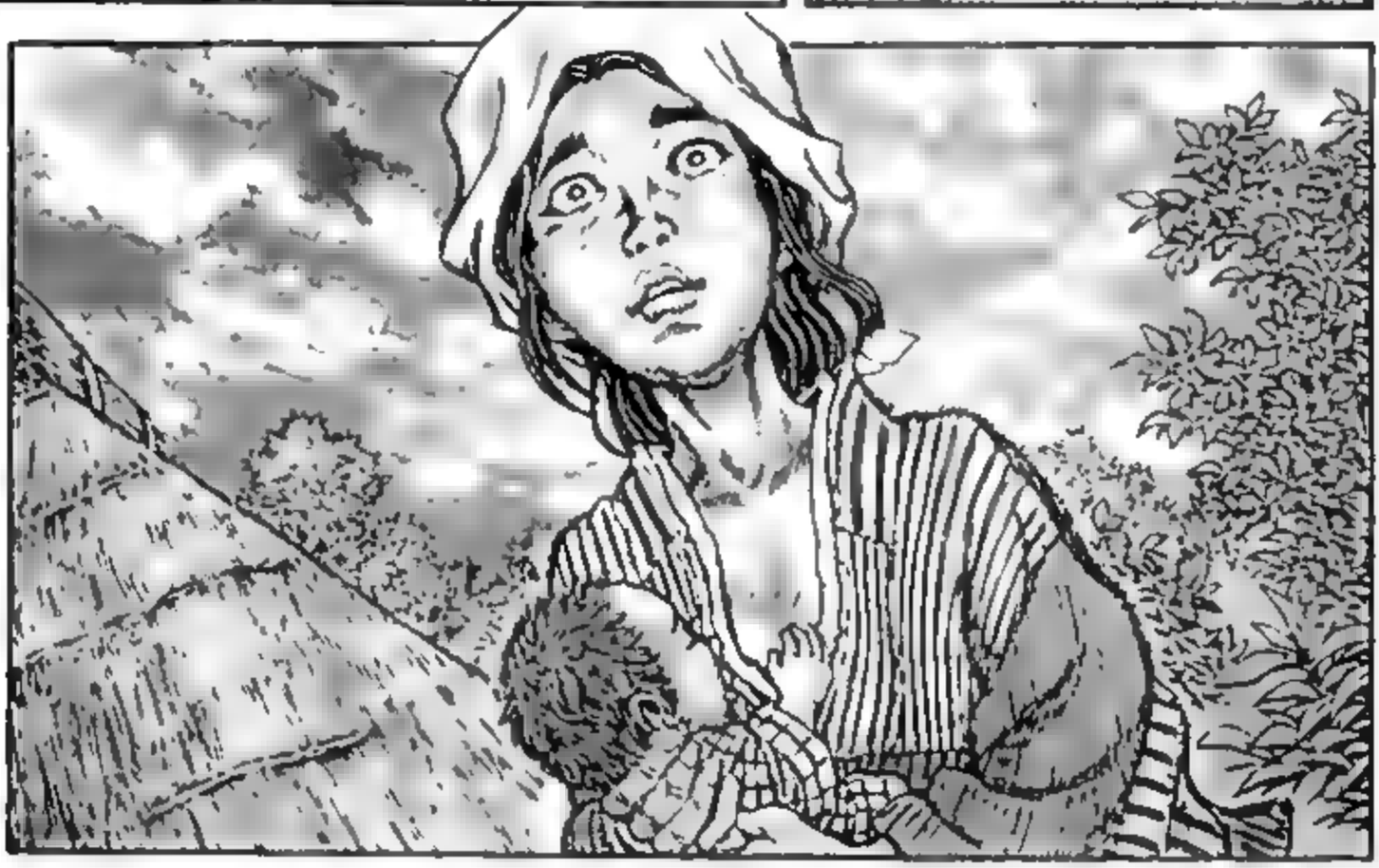



AS THOUGH WHETTING A BLADE,
MIE WHETTED GENNO-SUKE S FLESH
IN PREP-ARATION FOR THE DAY TO COME

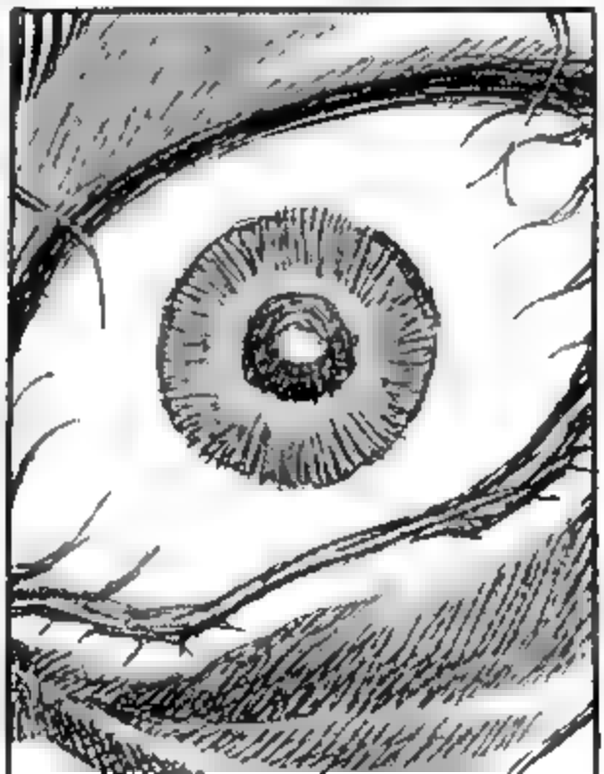
PLEASE CUT HIM DOWN.

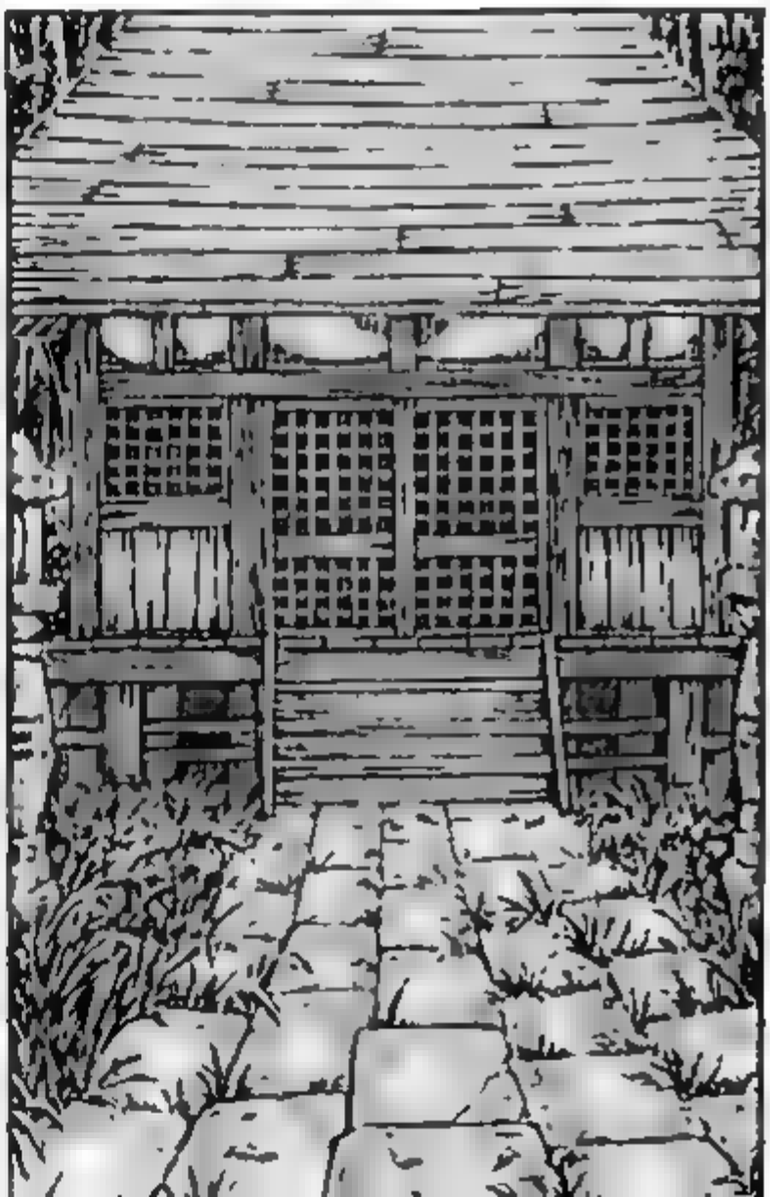






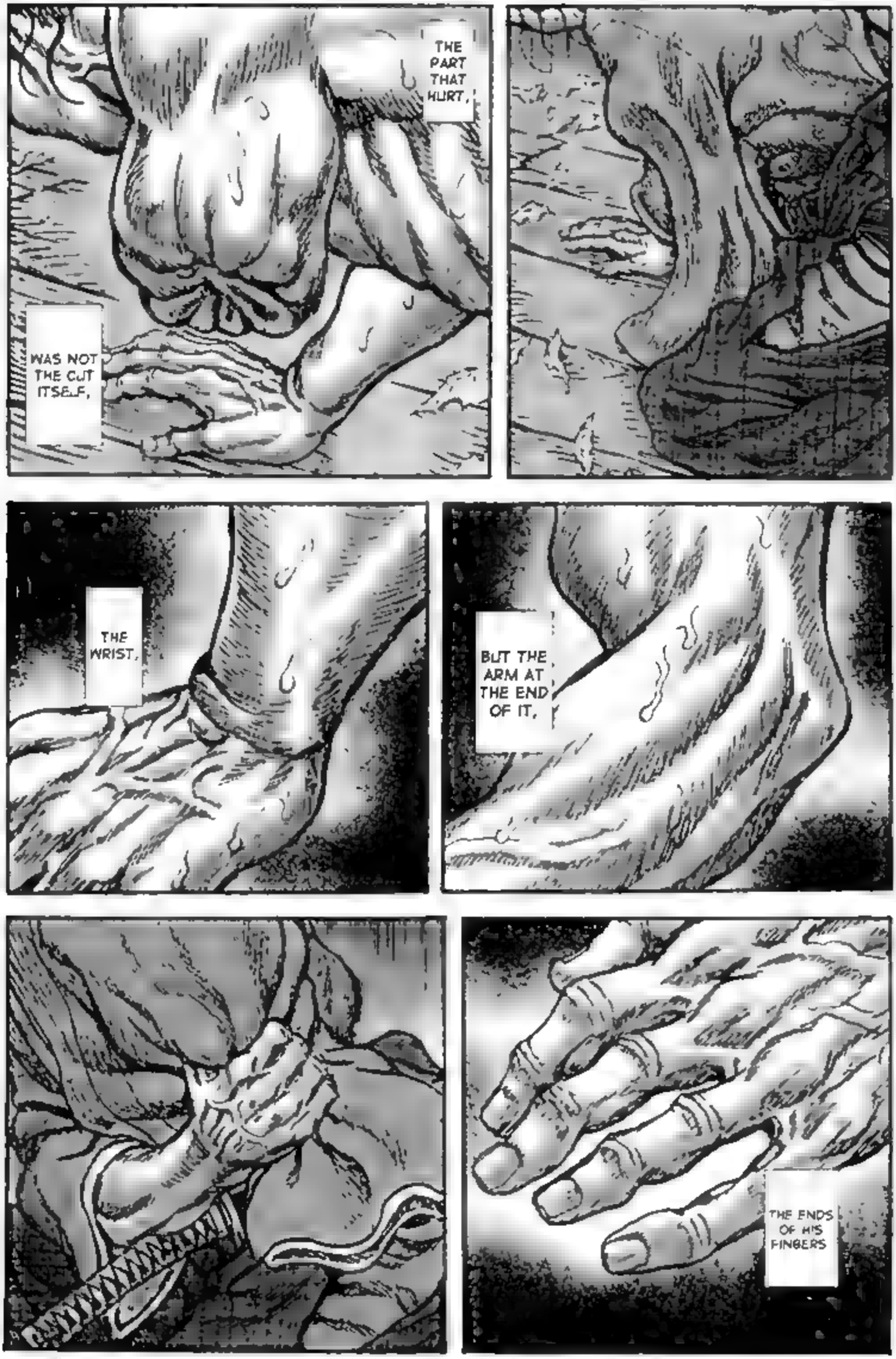
"A SHORTENED FORM OF "NAMU AMBITABUTSU" A PRAYER TO THE BUDDHA FOR SALVATION FROM EVIL SPIRITS"

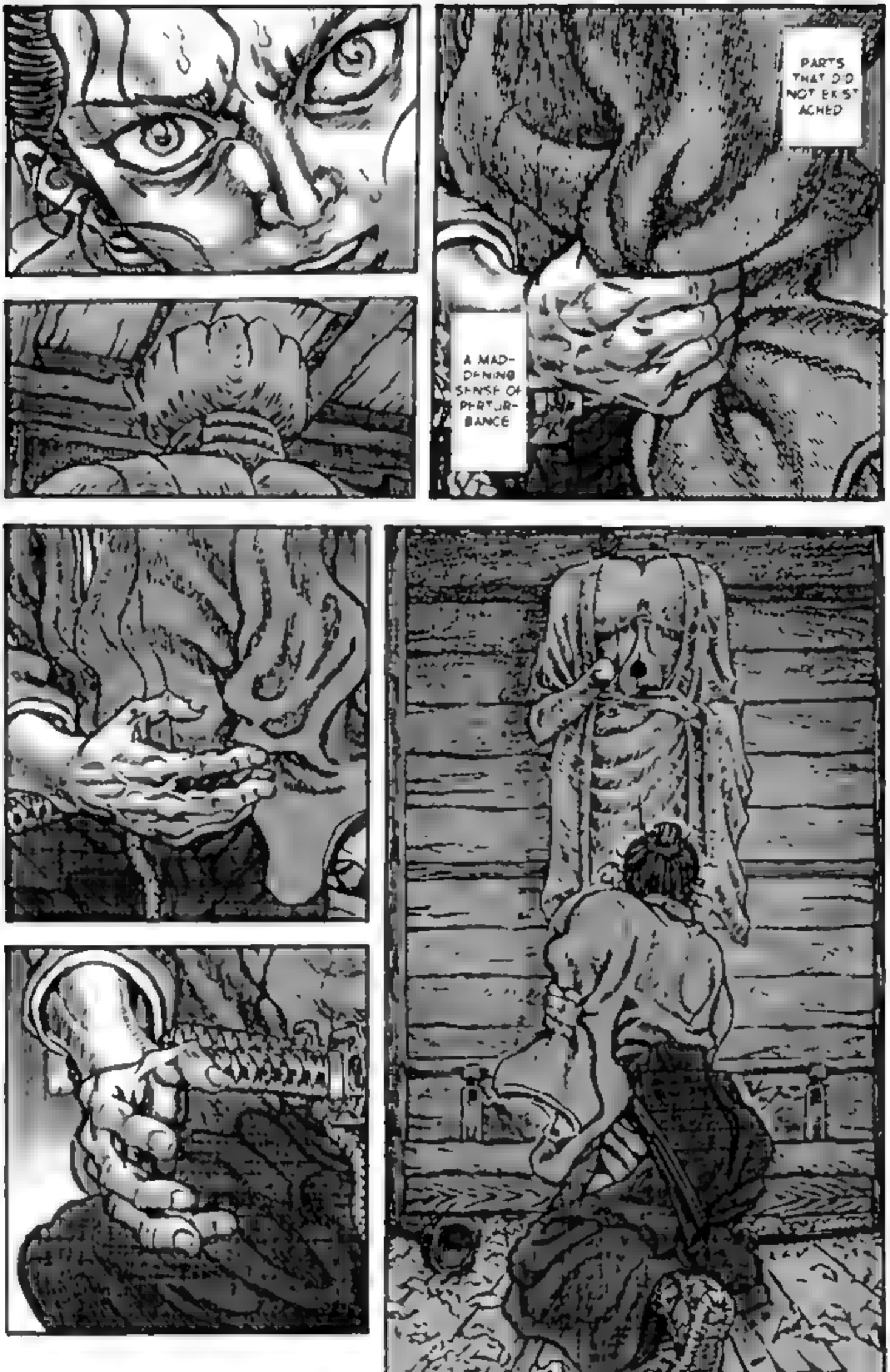




THE AGONY SPEARING THROUGH HIS LEFT ARM WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO BEAR

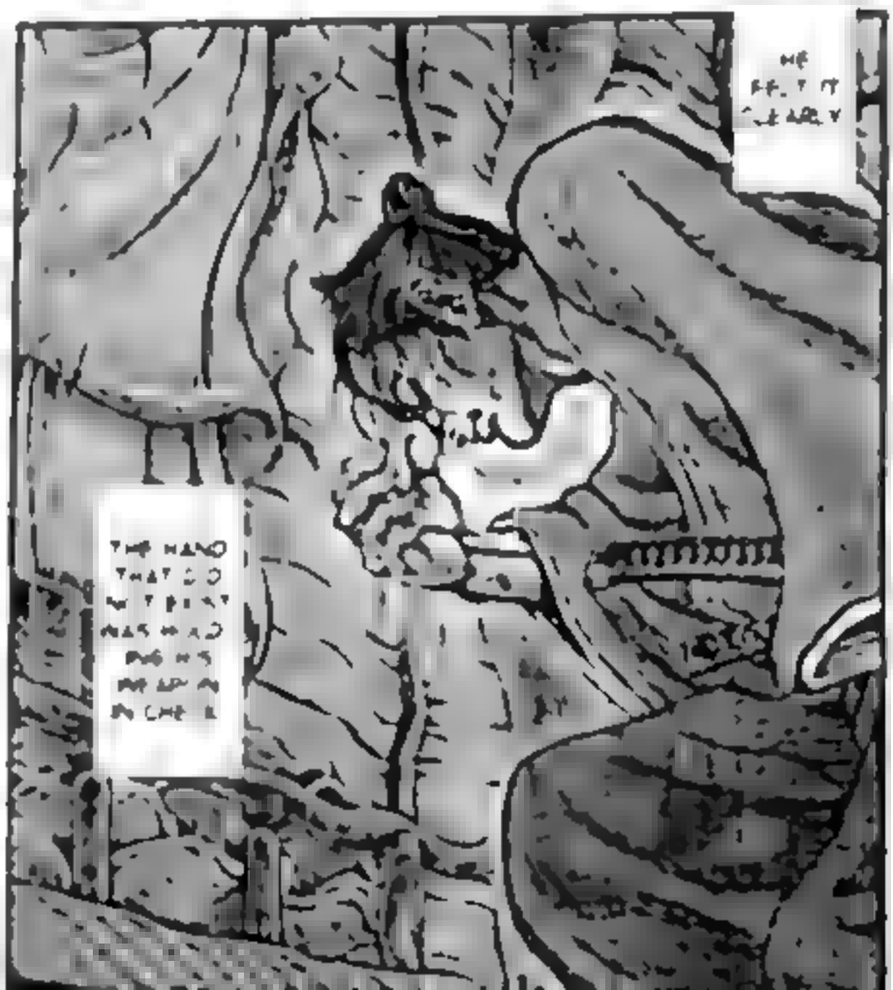
UPON ENTERING THE ABANDONED SHRINE WHERE HE HAD ONCE REACHED A MARTIAL EPIPHANY,
GENNOSUKE LET A CRY OF PAIN ESCAPE HIS LIPS

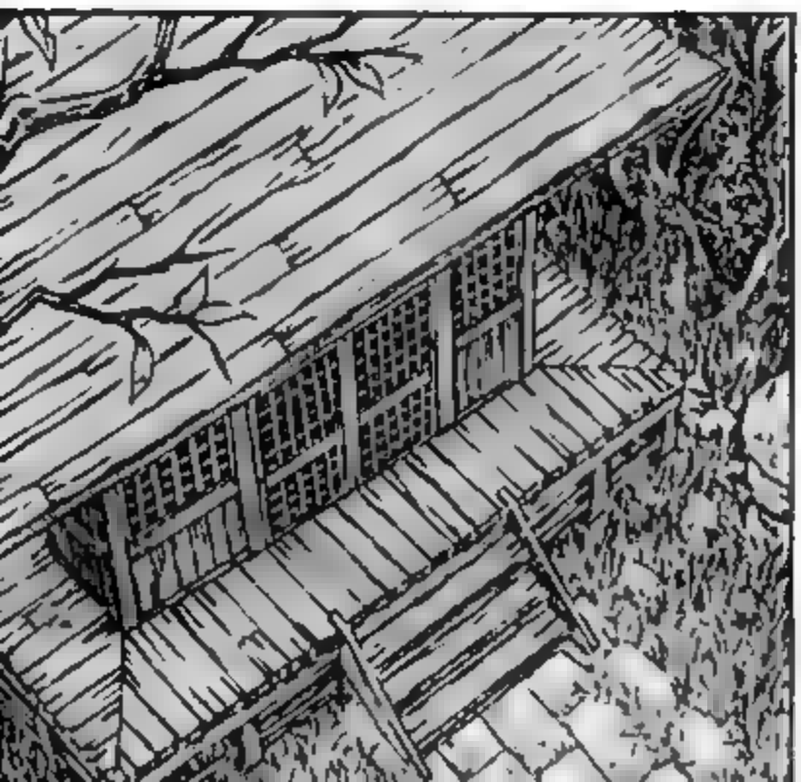

THE PART THAT HURT,
WAS NOT THE CUT ITSELF,
THE WRIST,
BUT THE ARM AT THE END OF IT,
THE ENDS OF HIS FINGERS


PARTS THAT DID NOT EXIST ACHED
A MADDENING SENSE OF PERTURBANCE

*LITERALLY "TO GRASP." THE TECHNIQUE OF KOGAN-RYU SUMO WHERE IN THE PRACTITIONER HOLDS BACK HIS STRIKING FIST WITH HIS OTHER HAND.

THIS PHENOMENON WAS KNOWN AS A PHANTOM LIMB


HE FELT IT CLEARLY
THE HAND THAT DID NOT EXIST WAS HELD BY HIS PHANTOM IN CHECK



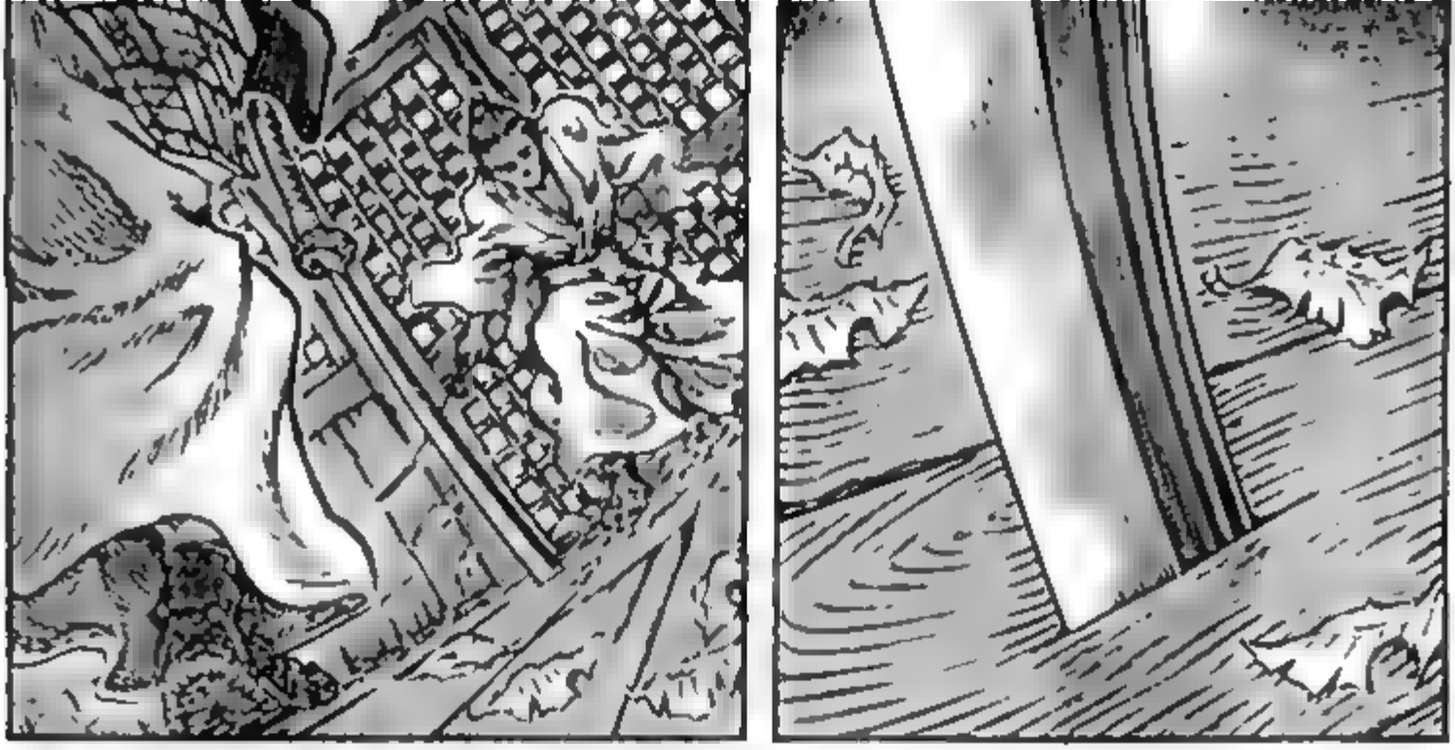
IT WAS THE KAROU S SON,
HARA-MISHI YUKI-CHIYO

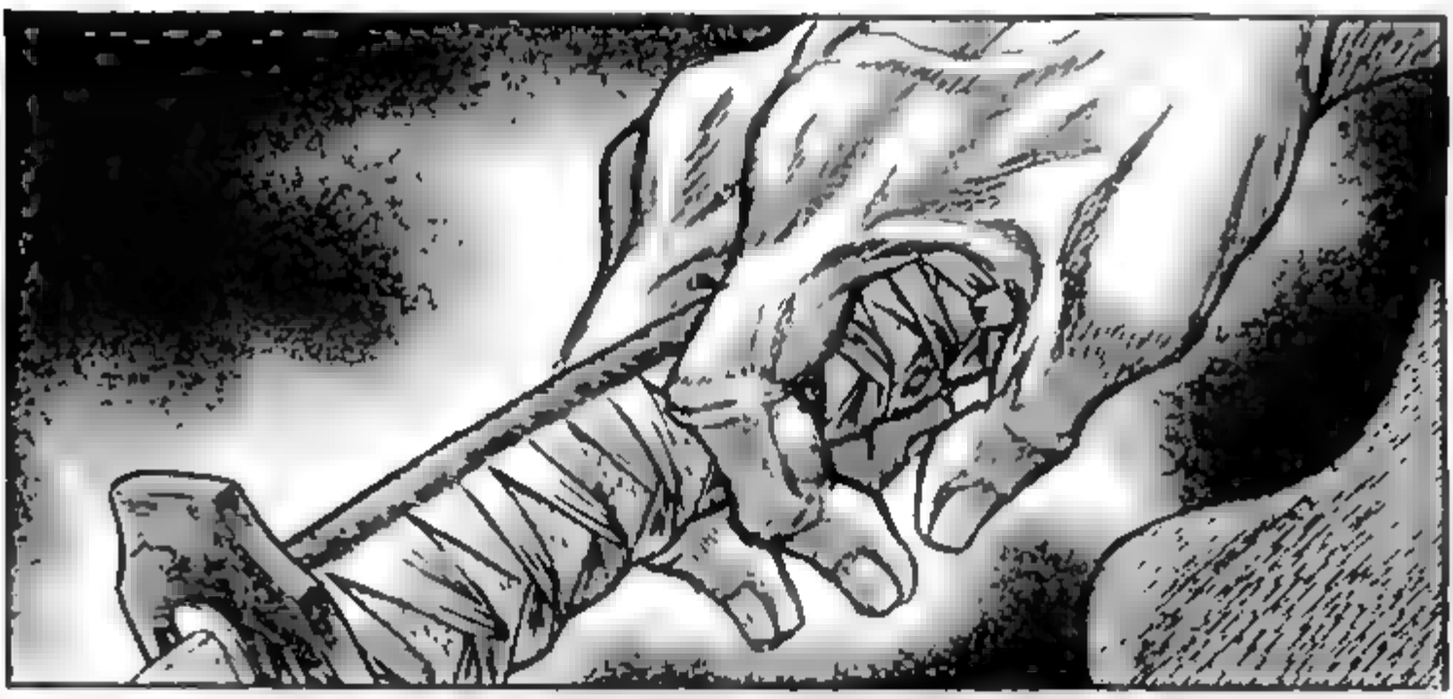
Has Mie-dono not fallen ill?
You look unwell, Genno-suke.
As well you should.

Why do you still draw breath,
When my father has slit his stomach?

This is because you lost to the man of the Todouza.
Forgive me.
LIFT YOUR HEAD.

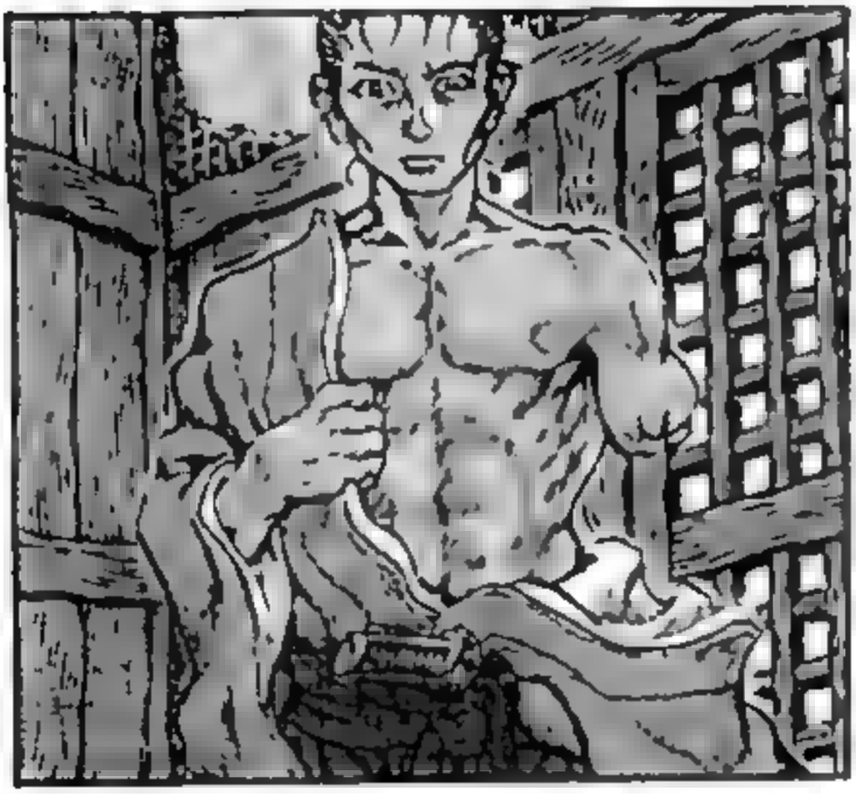
It seems,
I cannot find it in myself to forgive you...

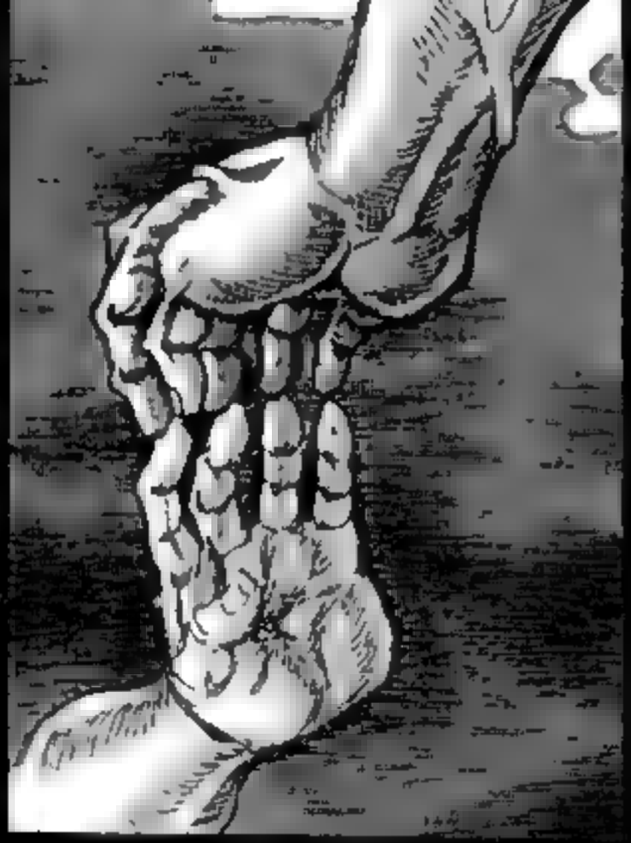




You are a fool, Fujiki Gennosuke.

FATHER...





GENNOSUKE REPORTED EVERYTHING TRUTHFULLY,

TO THE CLAN OF HARA-MISHI,

IT WOULD SHAME THE CLAN TO LET IT BE KNOWN THAT THE SON OF A KAROU HAD LOST TO A PATHETIC FAILURE WHO HAD NOT EVEN THE COURAGE TO TAKE HIS OWN LIFE

AND YUKICHIYO'S DEATH WAS REPORTED TO THE OFFICIALS AS A RESULT OF ILLNESS

SHIGURUI Vol. 11 END

作画協力／細倉 徹　那須信弘
考証協力／時野佐一郎

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チャンピオンRED　2008年3月号～8月号

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56年『燈台鬼』にて直木賞、82年『細香日記』にて吉川英治文学賞を受賞。「月影兵庫シリーズ」「元禄太平記」など著作多数。60年の「古城物語」などでいわゆる残酷ブームをつくる。
2004年10月30日逝去。

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次巻予告

失意の日々を送る藤木と三重。
敗れし者らに吹く風はどこまでも冷たく…。
shigurui
一方、伊良子はさらなる高みを目指す。
双竜の道が交わる日は再び訪れるのか…？

緊迫の第十二巻、戦慄して待て！

チャンピオンRED
コミックス

シグルイ 11

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